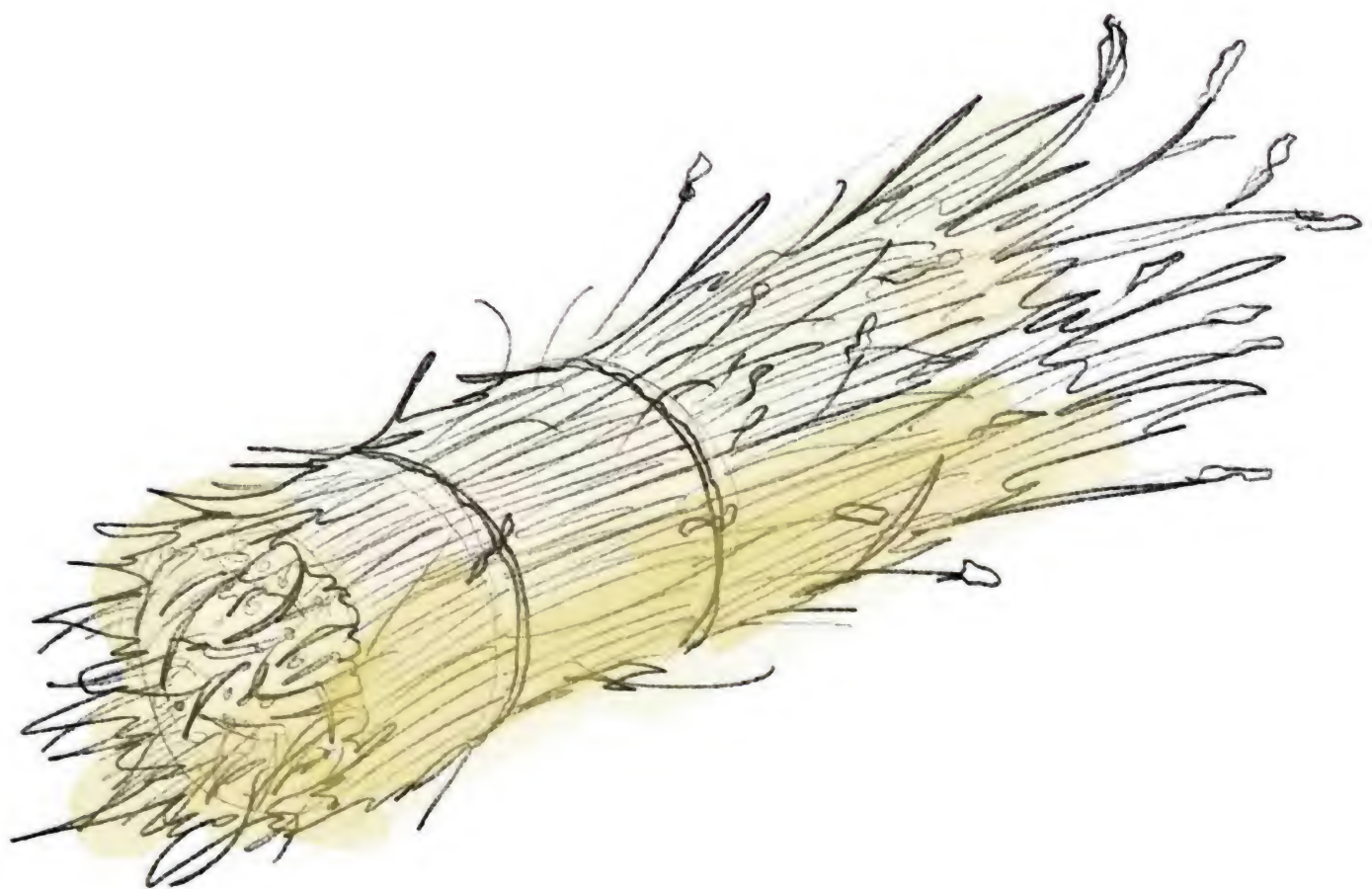


The COMBED WHEAT REED Thatch Micromanual



THE THATCH MICROMANUAL

BY SOURABH PHADKE

A BACK BREAKING PUBLICATION BY

BRAUN & BYURDAID INT'L

AND

EKDUM BUNDLE PRAKASHAN

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(But it'd be sweet of you to drop a line).



SEEDS of gratitude ...

the prince's foundation & queen elizabeth scholarship trust

(who made it all possible)



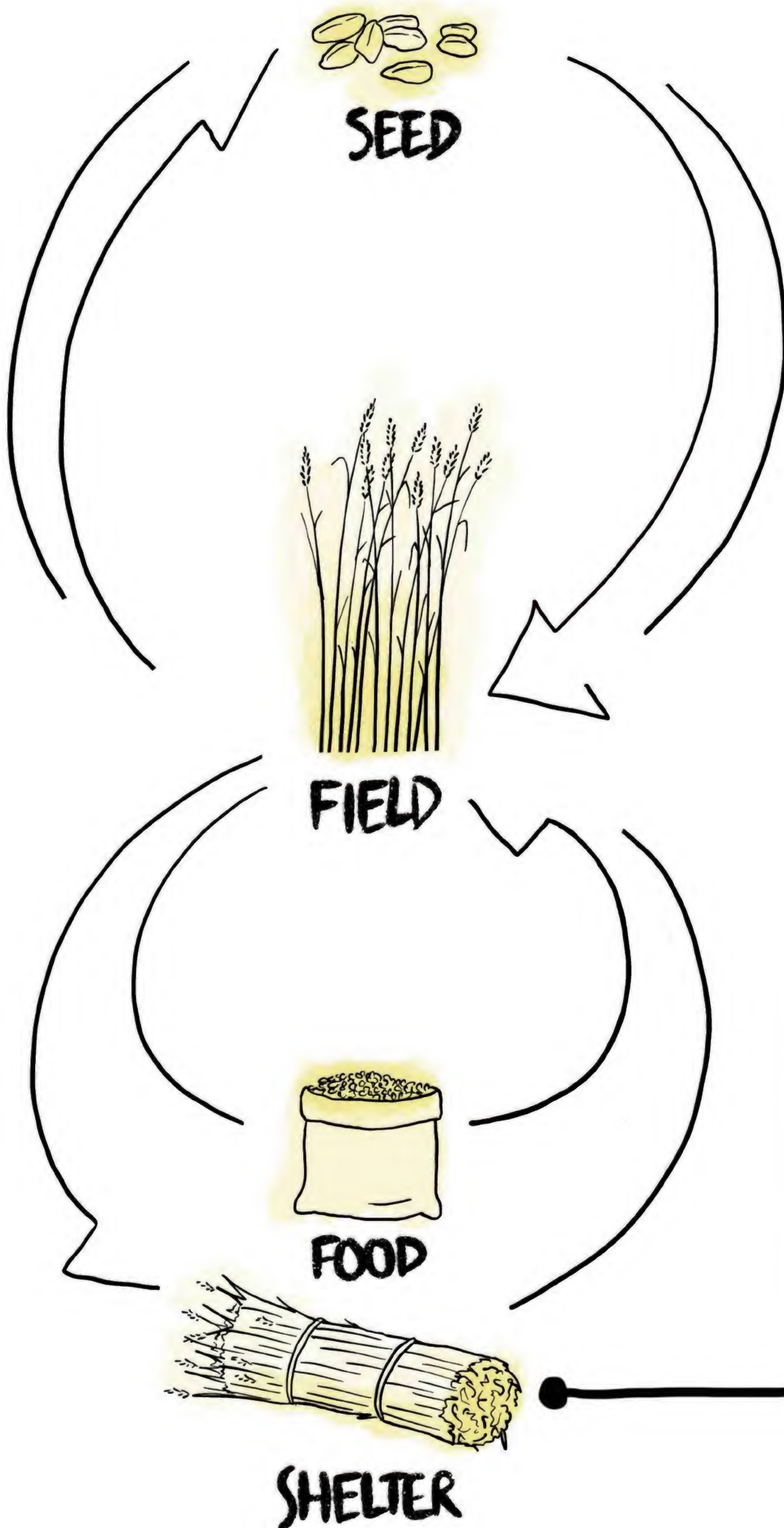
REEDS of gratitude ...

ben collins , ellie , layla
&

dale 'the whale'

(who possibly made it all)

THE STORY THUS FAR ...



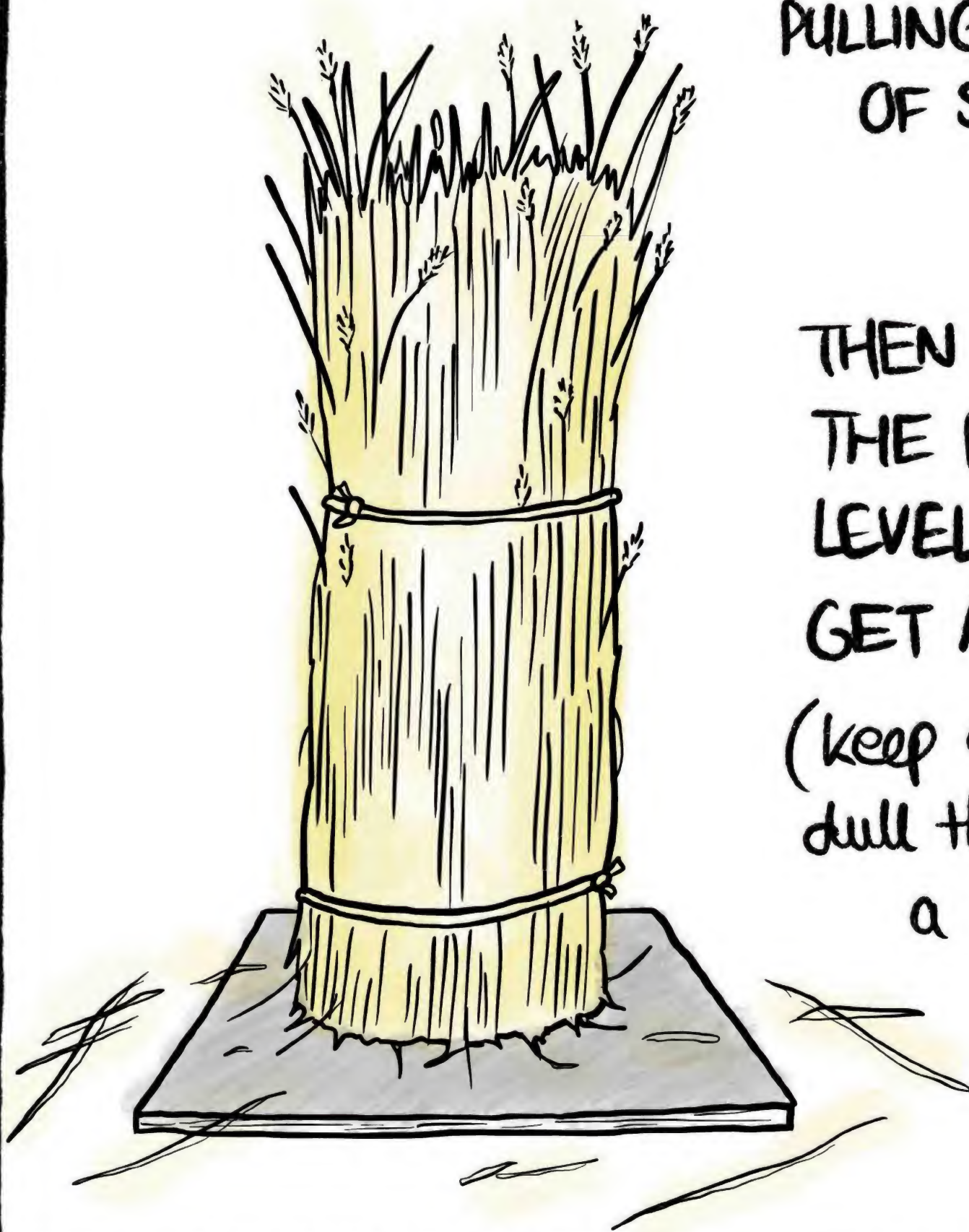
WE SHALL DIVE INTO THE ANTIHROPOCENTRIC WHEAT FIGURE OF EIGHT AT THE PRECISE MOMENT WHEN THE WHEAT - WHICH HAD BEEN SO LONG MONTHS AGO - HAS BEEN HARVESTED AND THEN THRESHED IN ORDER TO SEPARATE THE SEED FROM THE REED. FOR WE CAN NOW BAKE SOME WHOLE WHEAT BREAD AND WHILE CHOMPING ON IT BEGIN THE PROCEEDINGS TO TURN THE THRESHED STRAW INTO A LOVELY THATCHED ROOF.

OUR JOURNEY TO THE RIDGE STARTS WITH THE HUMBLE STRAW BUNDLE.

THIS SCRUFFY BUNDLE
NEEDS A LOT OF WORK



FIRST,
WE CLEAN IT BY
PULLING OFF LOOSE BITS
OF STRAW & LEAF



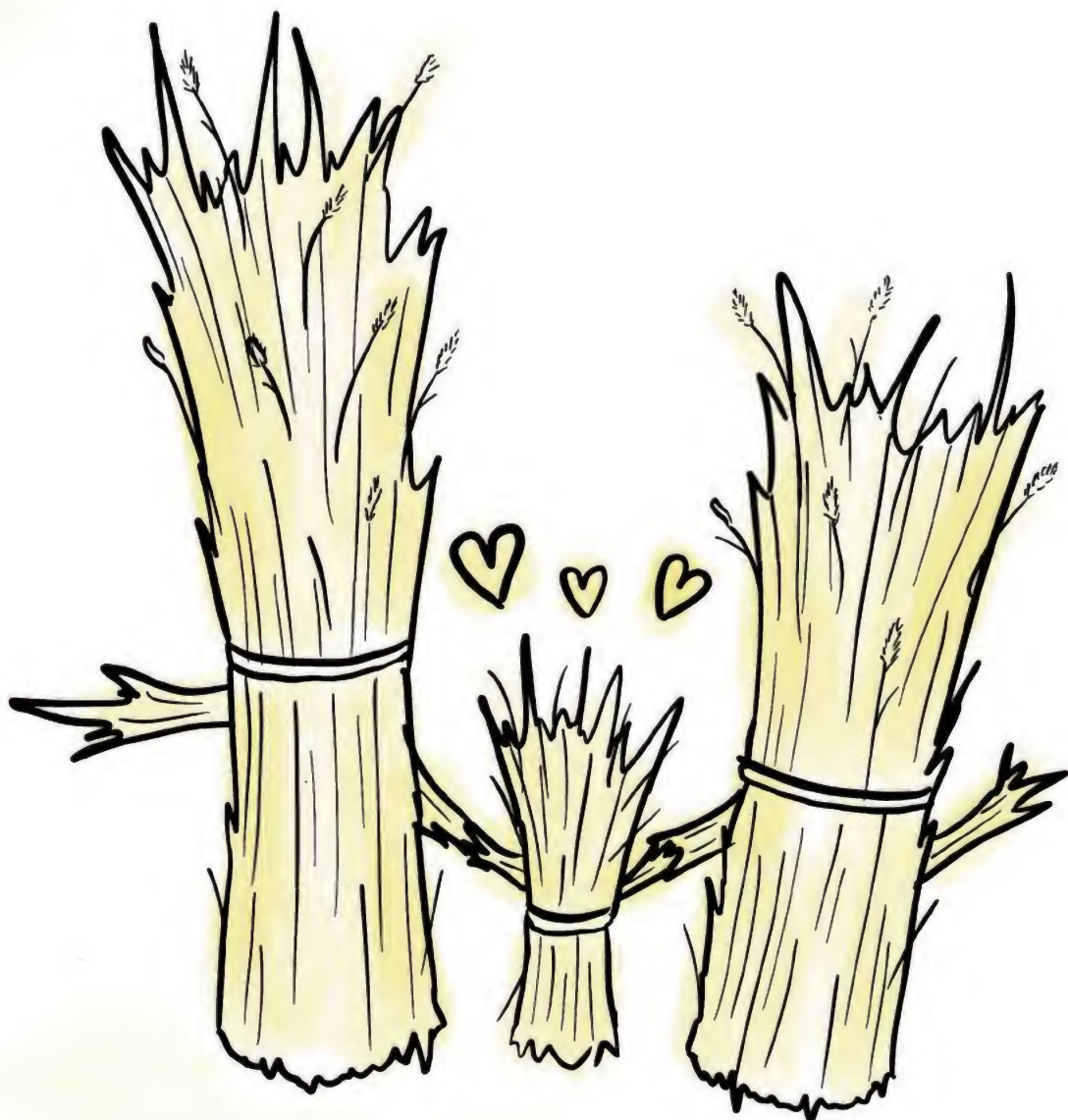
THEN WE CAN SMACK
THE BUNDLE ON A
LEVEL SURFACE TO
GET AN EVEN FACE
(keep at it until a
dull thud turns into
a sharp thwack)



THIS SMACKED
FACE CAN
BE GIVEN A
SMART SHAVE
("That which is
smacked, smarts")
-Anon.)



USING 'GOLDILOCKS
VISION', THE BUNDLES
CAN NOW BE SORTED
INTO MAMA, PAPA
& BABY STACKS



EVERY BUNDLE
GOES THROUGH
SEVERAL STAGES
OF HANDLING

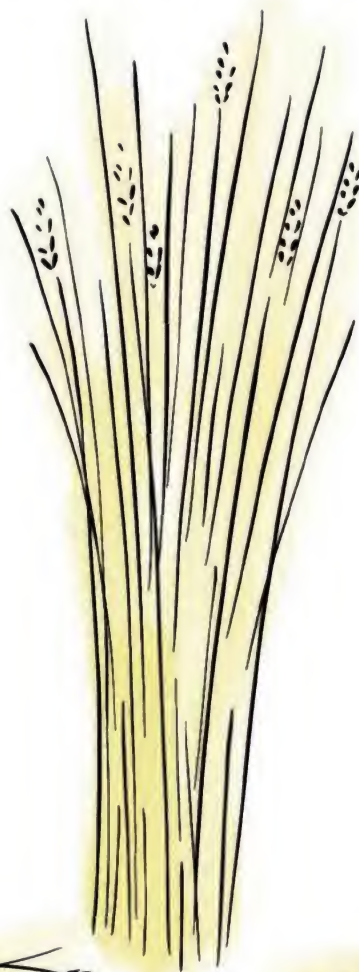
WHEREIN WE
GET RID OF THE
SHORT STUFF
AND END UP
WITH :

A NICE YELM



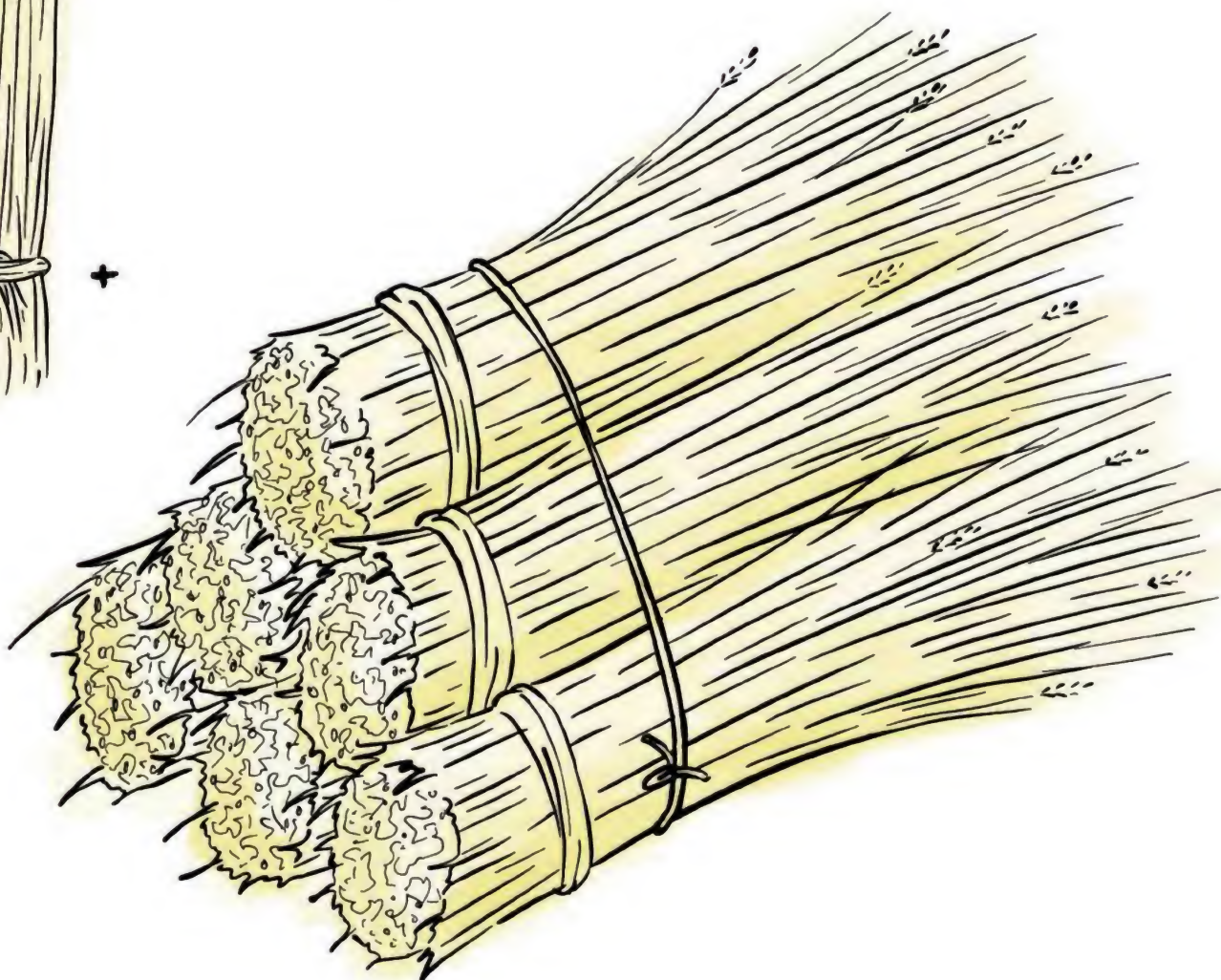


SO THIS
CHOREOGRAPHED
SEQUENCE TAKES
US FROM LARGE,
MIXED BUNDLES
TO SMALLER ONES
OF EQUAL LENGTH



THESE CAN THEN
BE TIED INTO
EAVES WADS⁺ OR
PACKS FOR COATWORK⁺⁺

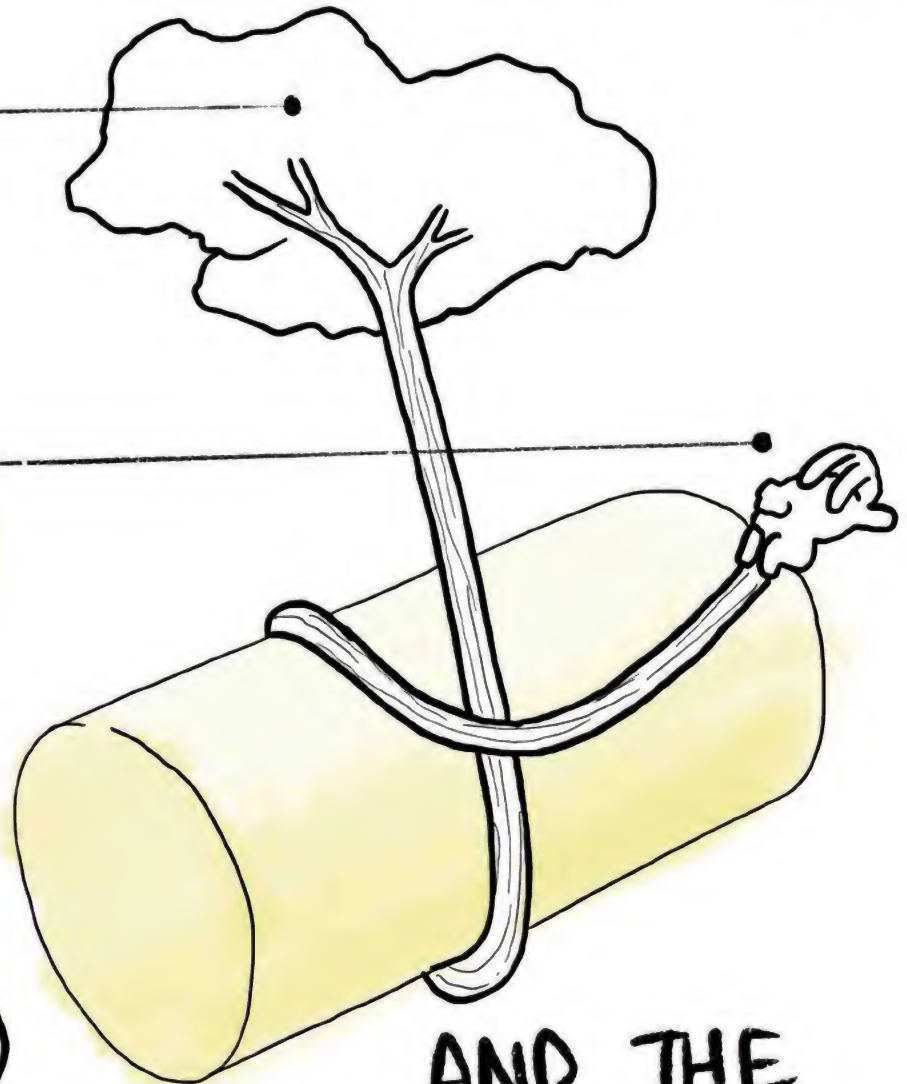
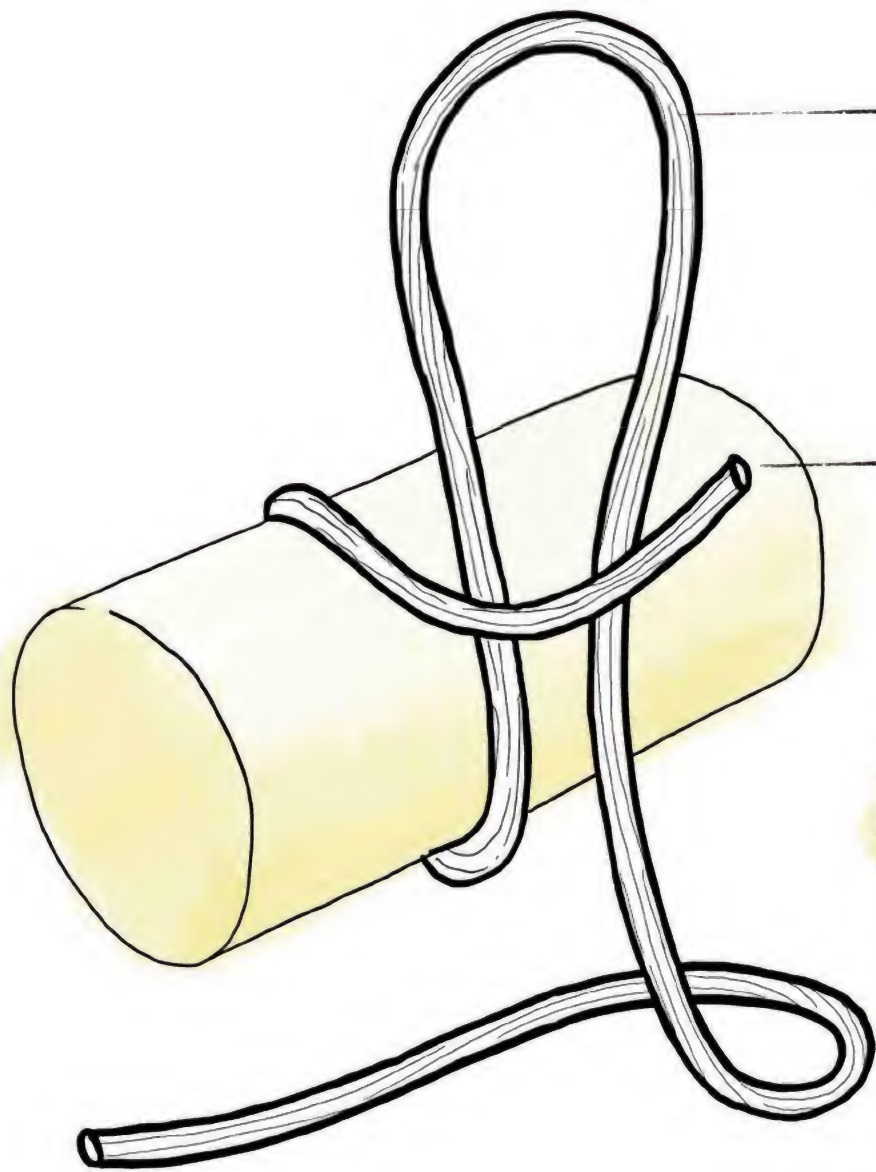
PACKS OF
SIMILAR LENGTH
CAN BE TIED
TOGETHER



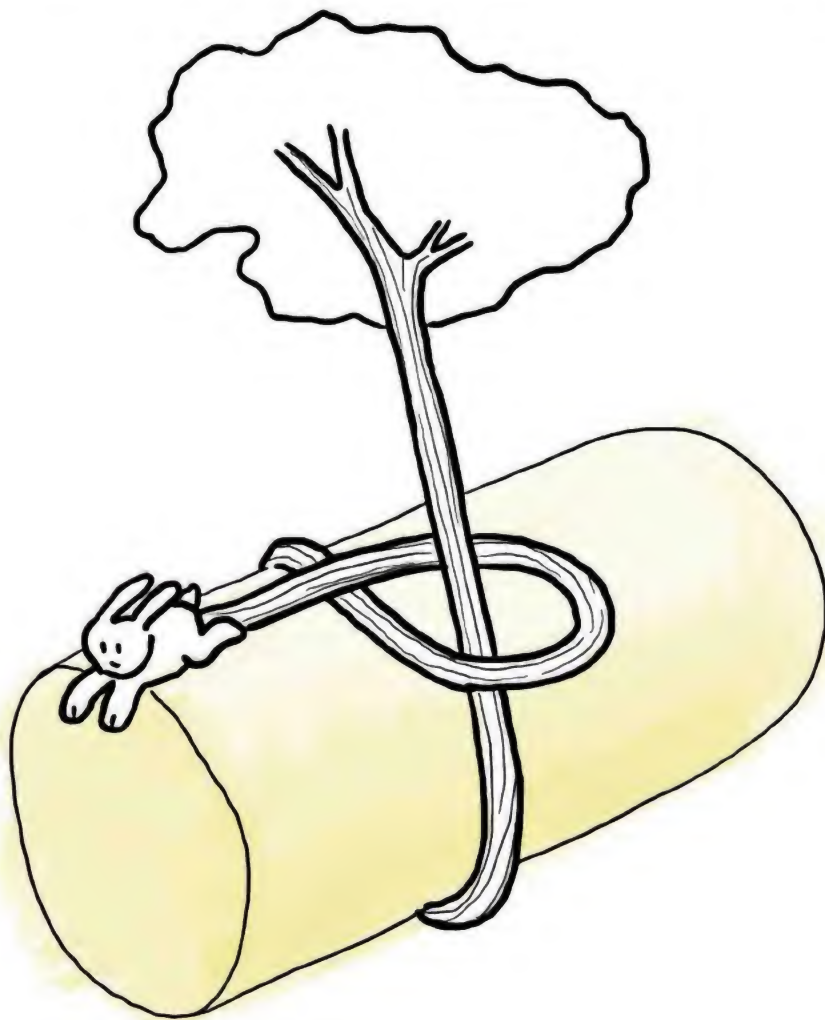
AND THIS IS WHERE A BUNNY KNOT HELPS...

DETOUR BEGINS

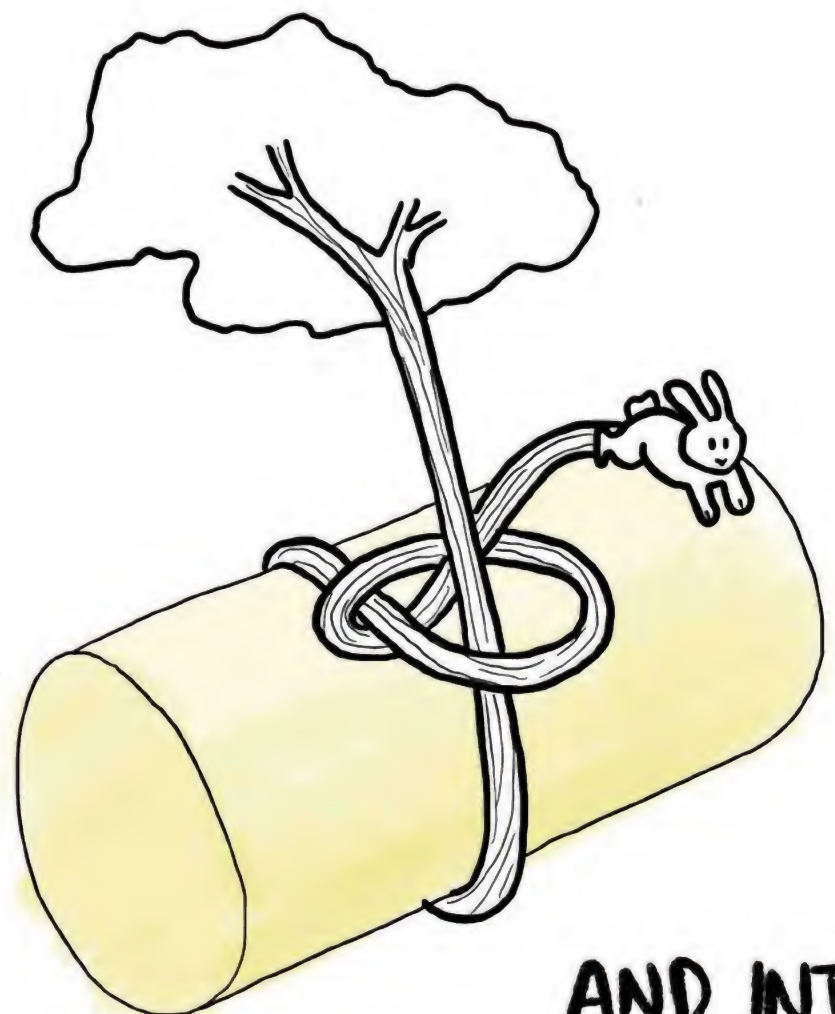
IMAGINE THAT THE LONG END OF THE ROPE
IS A TREE ...



AND THE
SHORT ONE A BUNNY

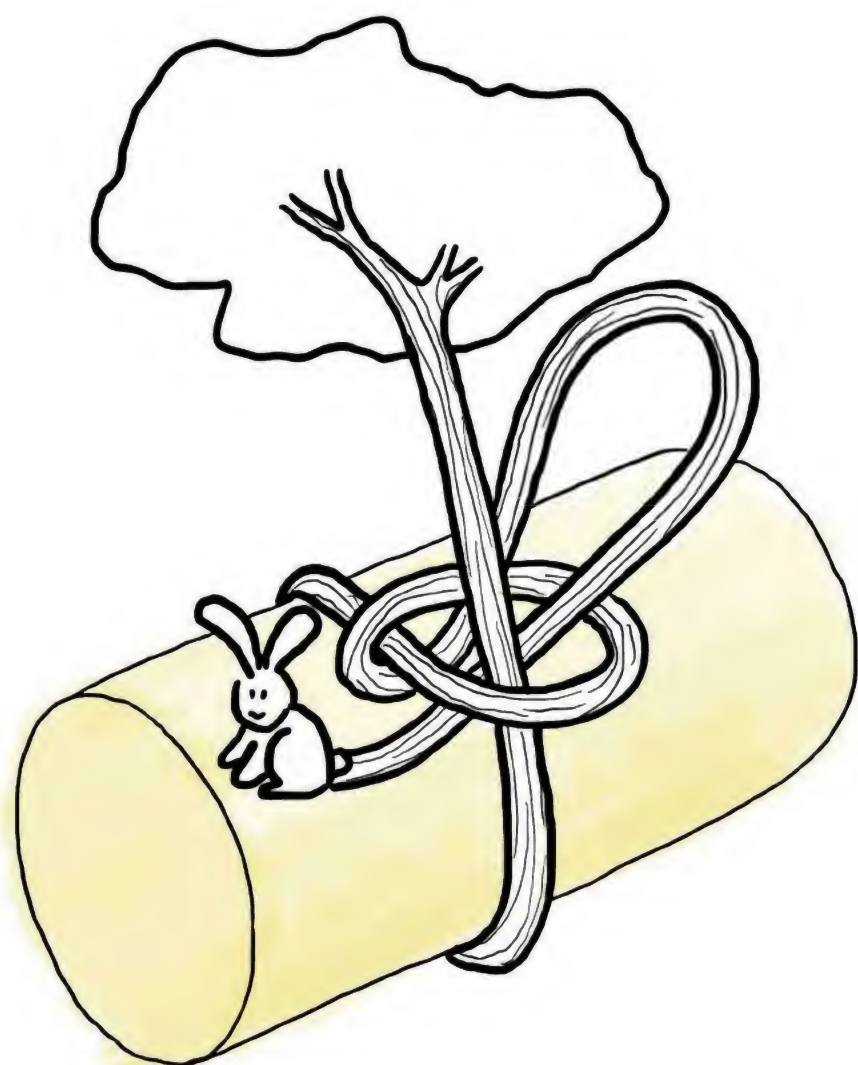


FOLLOW THE BUNNY
AROUND THE TREE

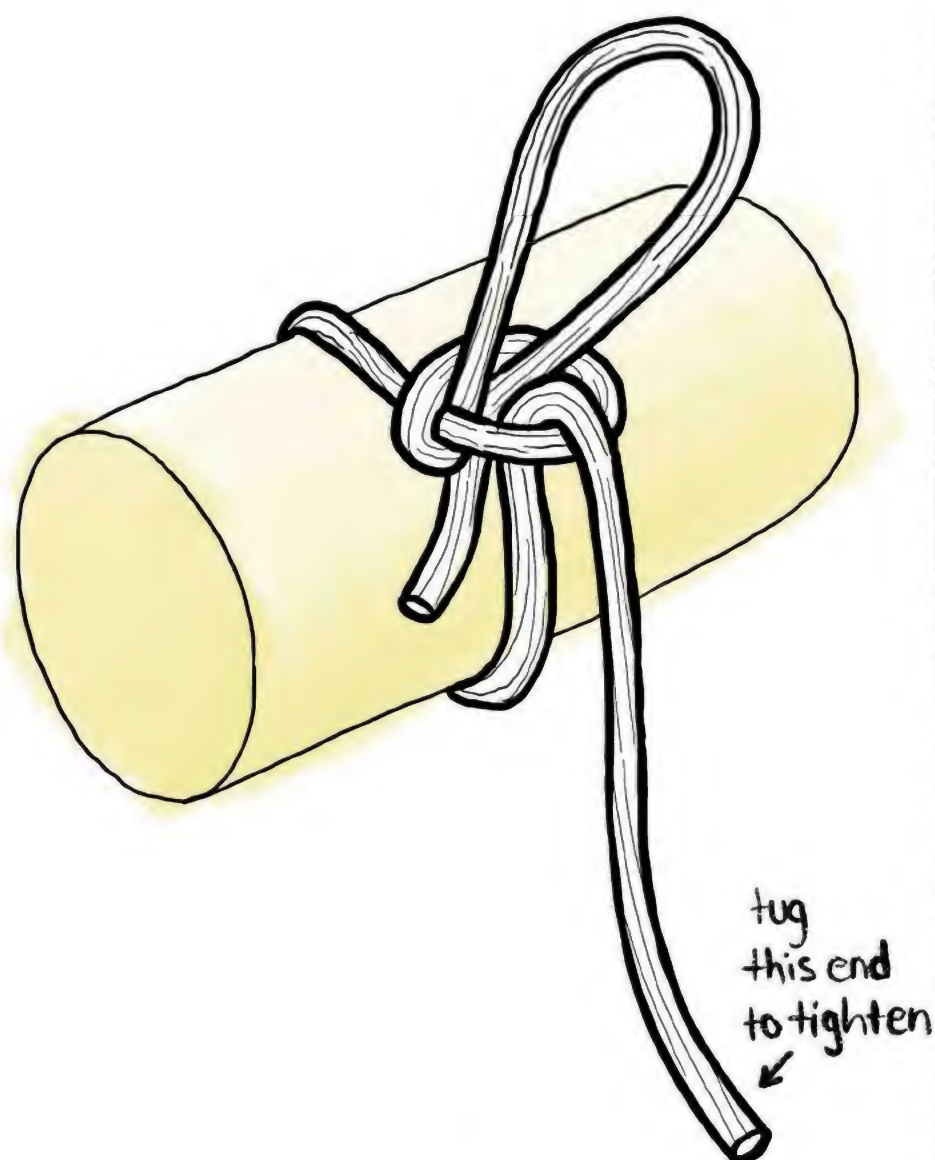


AND INTO
THE 'BURROW'

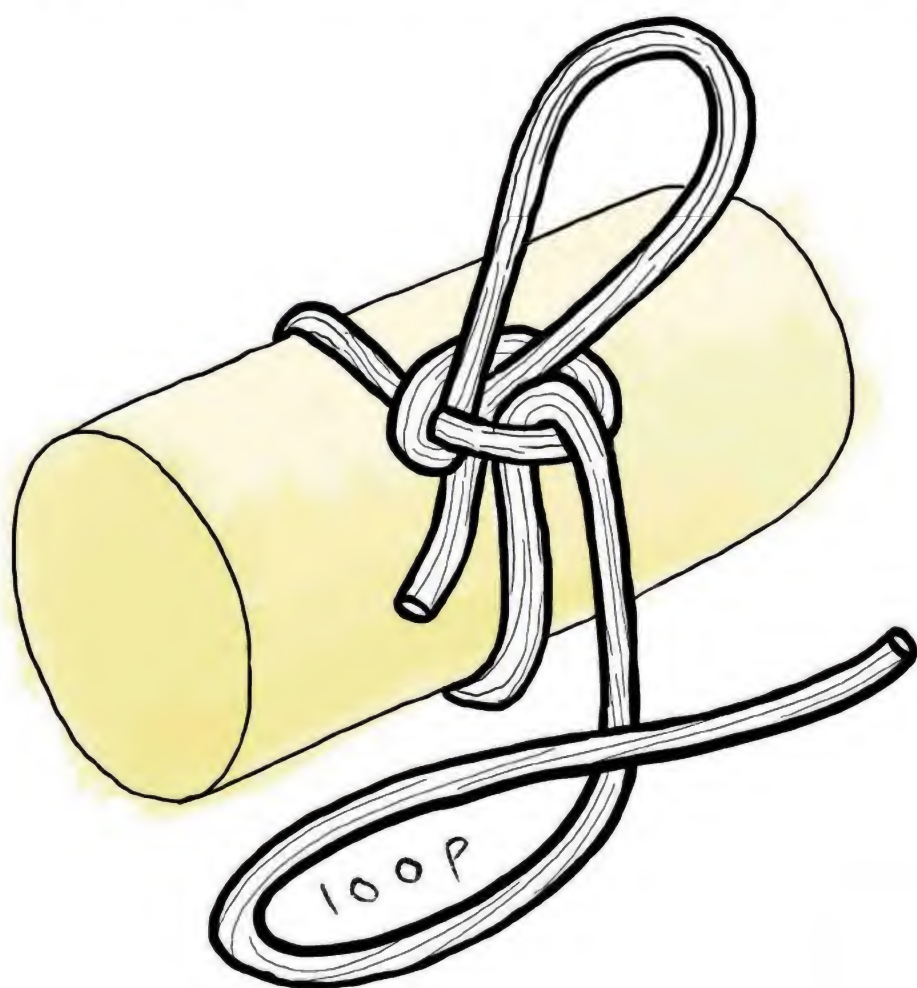
AND OUT AGAIN !



THIS IS WHAT IT
WILL LOOK LIKE WHEN
YOU STOP HALLUCINATING...



NOW YOU CAN 'LOCK'
IT BY MAKING A LOOP



WHICH GOES OVER
THE KNOT AND IS
TIGHTENED



DETOUR ENDS

WITH BUNNY KNOW HOW, WE CAN ALSO MAKE RIDGE ROLLS



BEGIN WITH
A BEAUTIFUL
BUNDLE
OF JOY
(AND STRAW)



SHOWER IT
WITH ATTENTION,
AFFECTION
(AND STRAW)



GO ON,



TA-DAA !

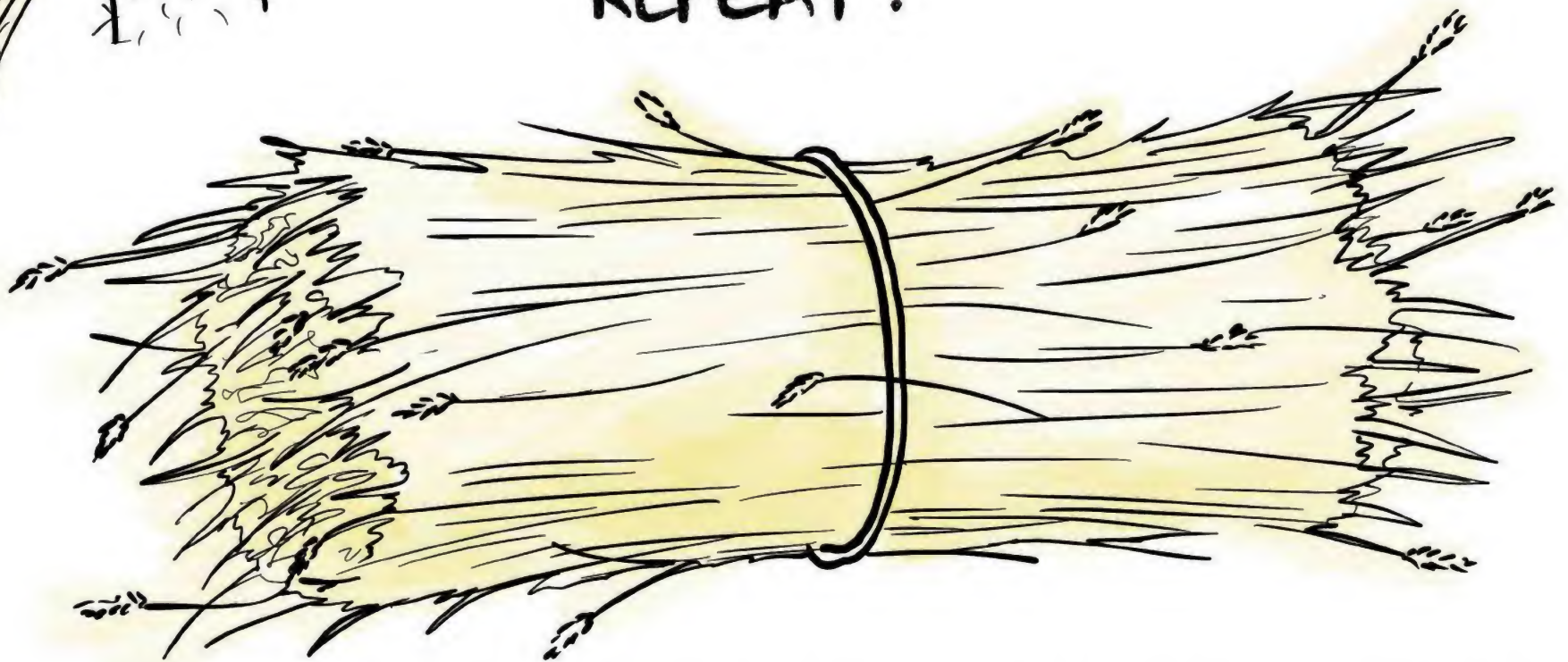
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT ALL, A TANGLE
OF STRAW WILL BUILD UP AROUND YOU..



SO LET'S
SORT IT
OUT!



TAKE A HANDFUL,
GRAB EITHER ENDS,
TUG & FLAP AROUND,
REPEAT.



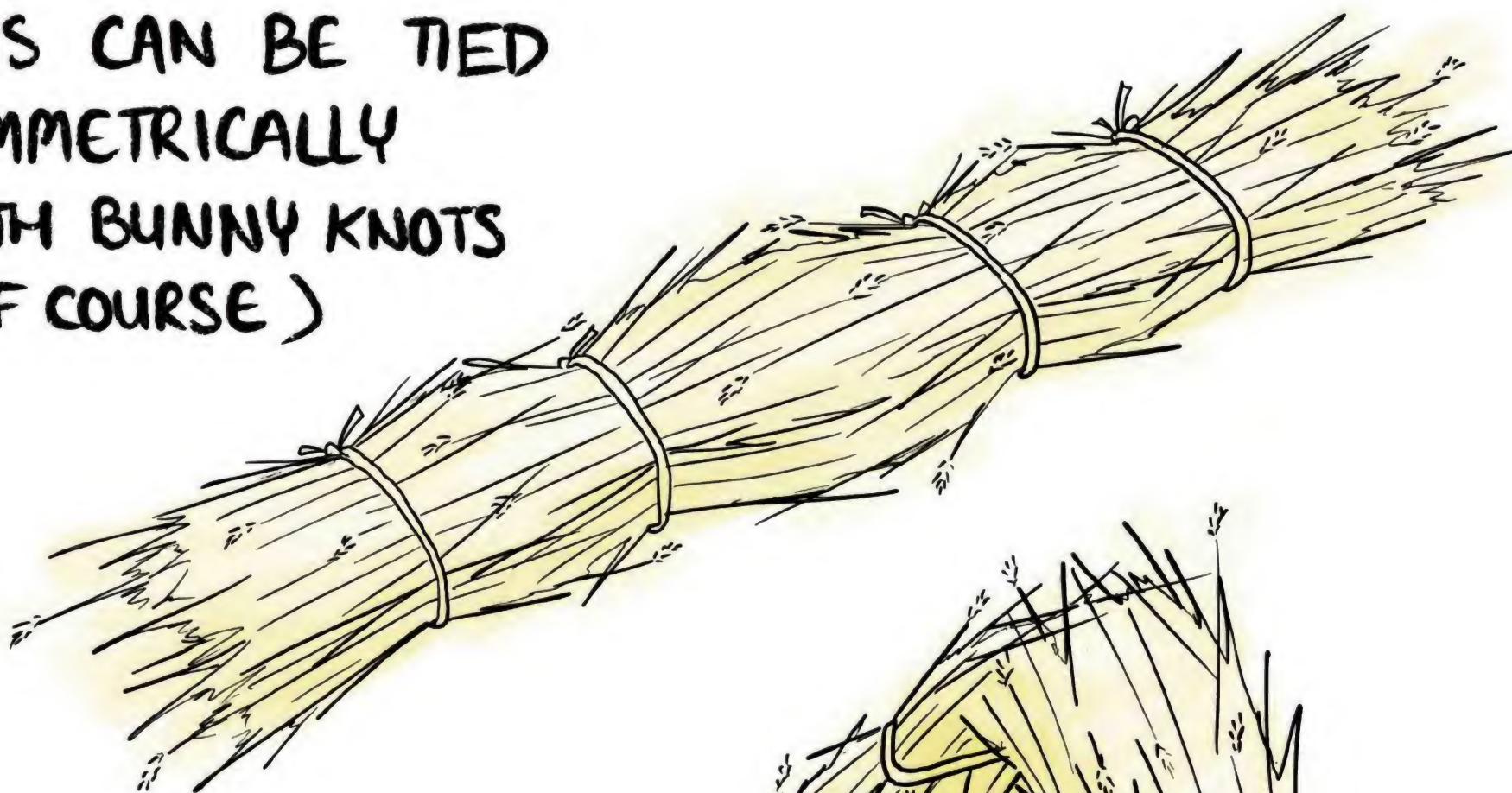
NOW WE HAVE BUNDLES OF 'TWO-WAY' STRAW
THAT CAN BE USED AS PACKING, OR...

... STUFF TO MAKE : RIDGE WRAPS!



SO LAY OUT A
BEDDING LAYER THAT
TAPERS TO EITHER END

THIS CAN BE TIED
SYMMETRICALLY
(WITH BUNNY KNOTS
OF COURSE)



WHICH CAN THEN
BE FOLDED TO PLACE
ON THE ROOF RIDGE

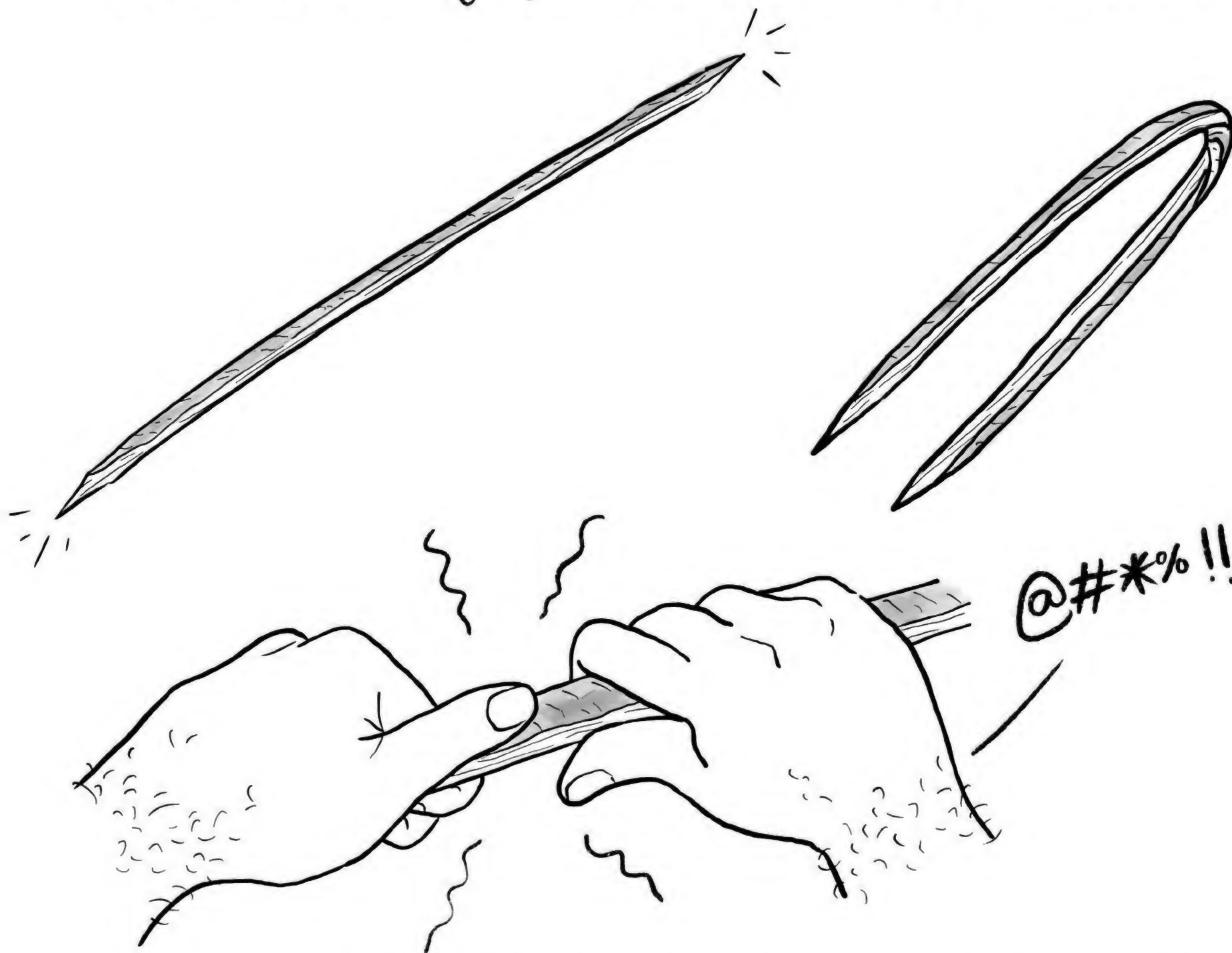


WE'RE DONE WITH THE STRAW PREP!
NOW ALL WE NEED IS SOMETHING
THAT WILL HOLD IT ALL IN PLACE...

BEHOLD, THE NEMESIS OF NEWBIES,
THE HAZEL SPAR!



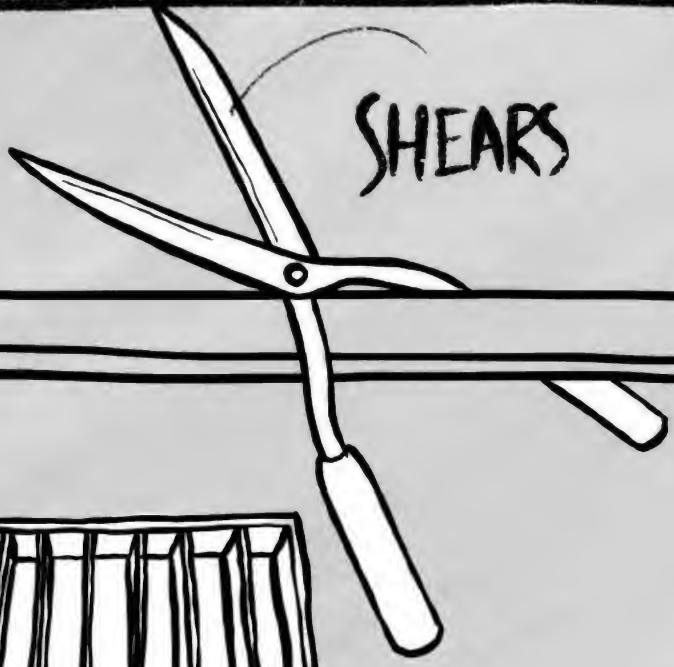
HAZEL LENGTHS ARE CUT, SPLIT, SHARPENED
AND THEN (gulp) TWISTED INTO SPARS



NOW, WE'RE READY TO START THATCHING!
BUT FIRST, WE GEAR UP.

MEET THE TOOLS

SHEARS



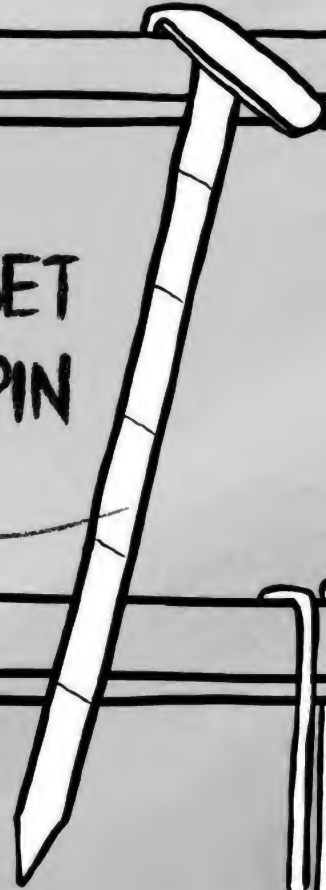
KNIFE



SHEARING HOOK



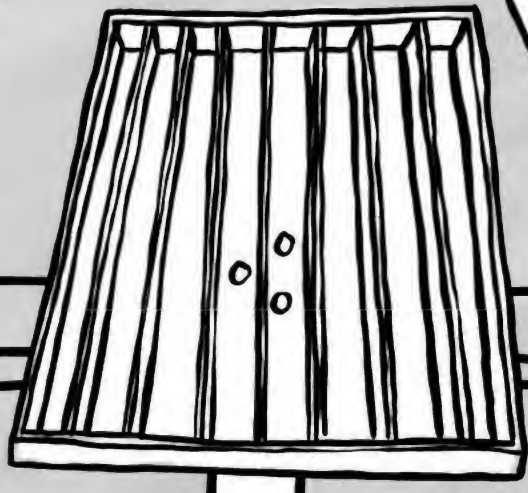
SET PIN



LEGGET



LADDER



STEEL ROD



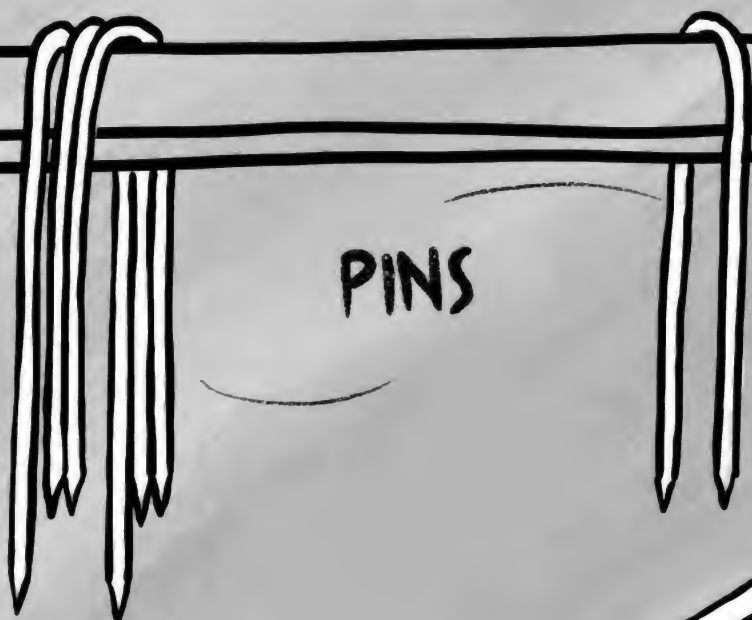
'TWISTY'



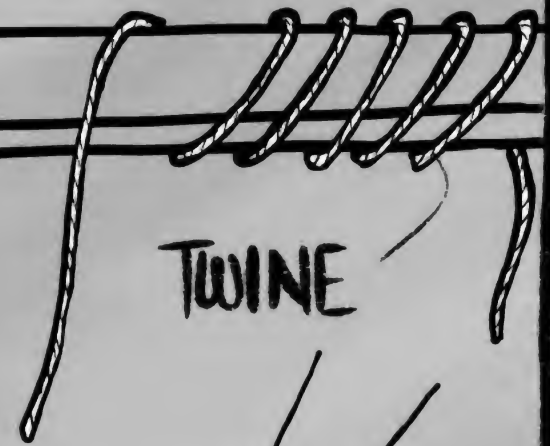
CROOKS



PINS



TWINE



KNEE PADS



HAND DRILL



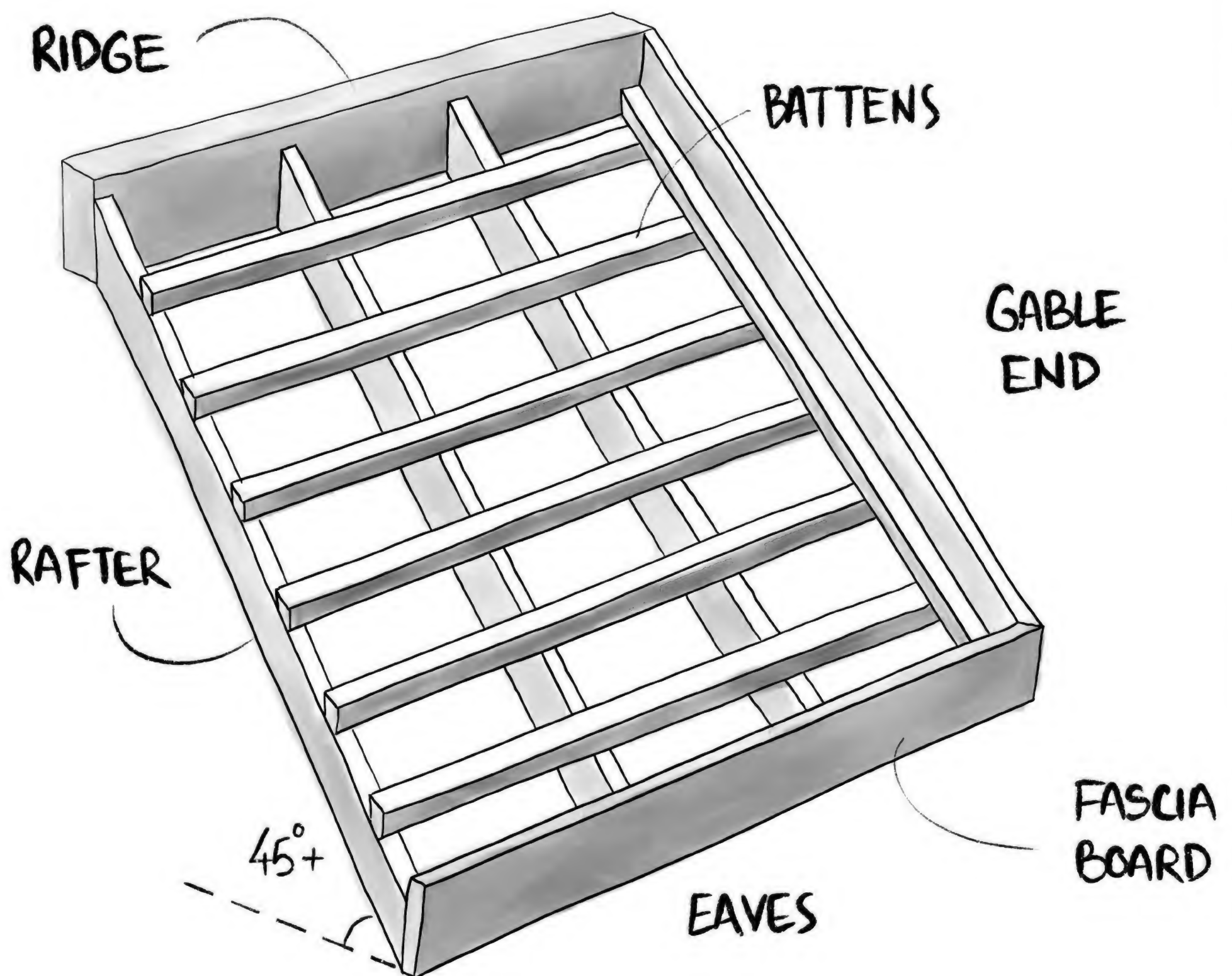
SCREW TIES



WITH TOOLS IN OUR HANDS (AND PEACE
IN OUR HEART) WE NOW GAZE UPON
(dramatic music in the background)

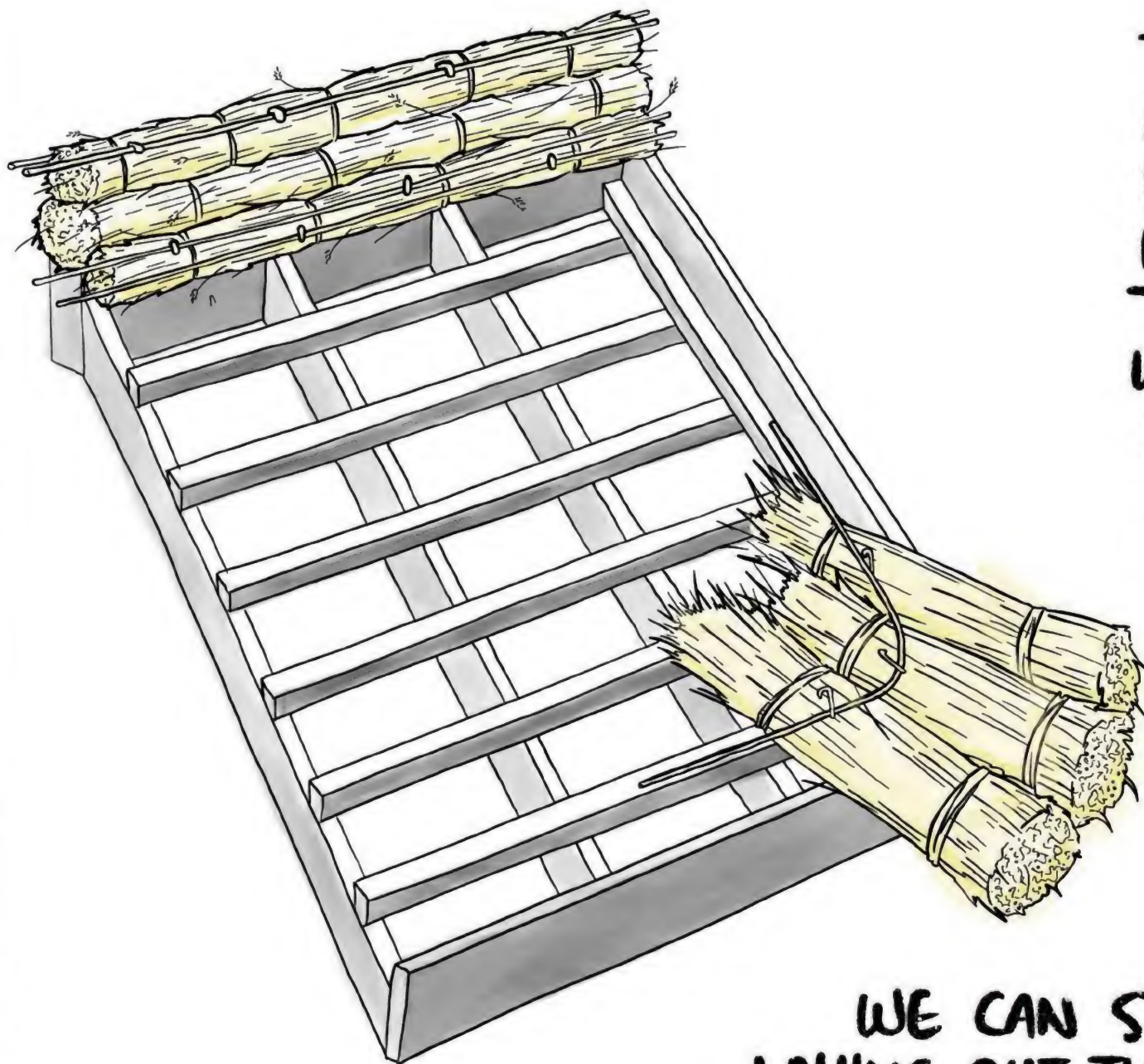
THE. ROOF.

HERE'S A QUICK LOOK AT WHO'S WHO :



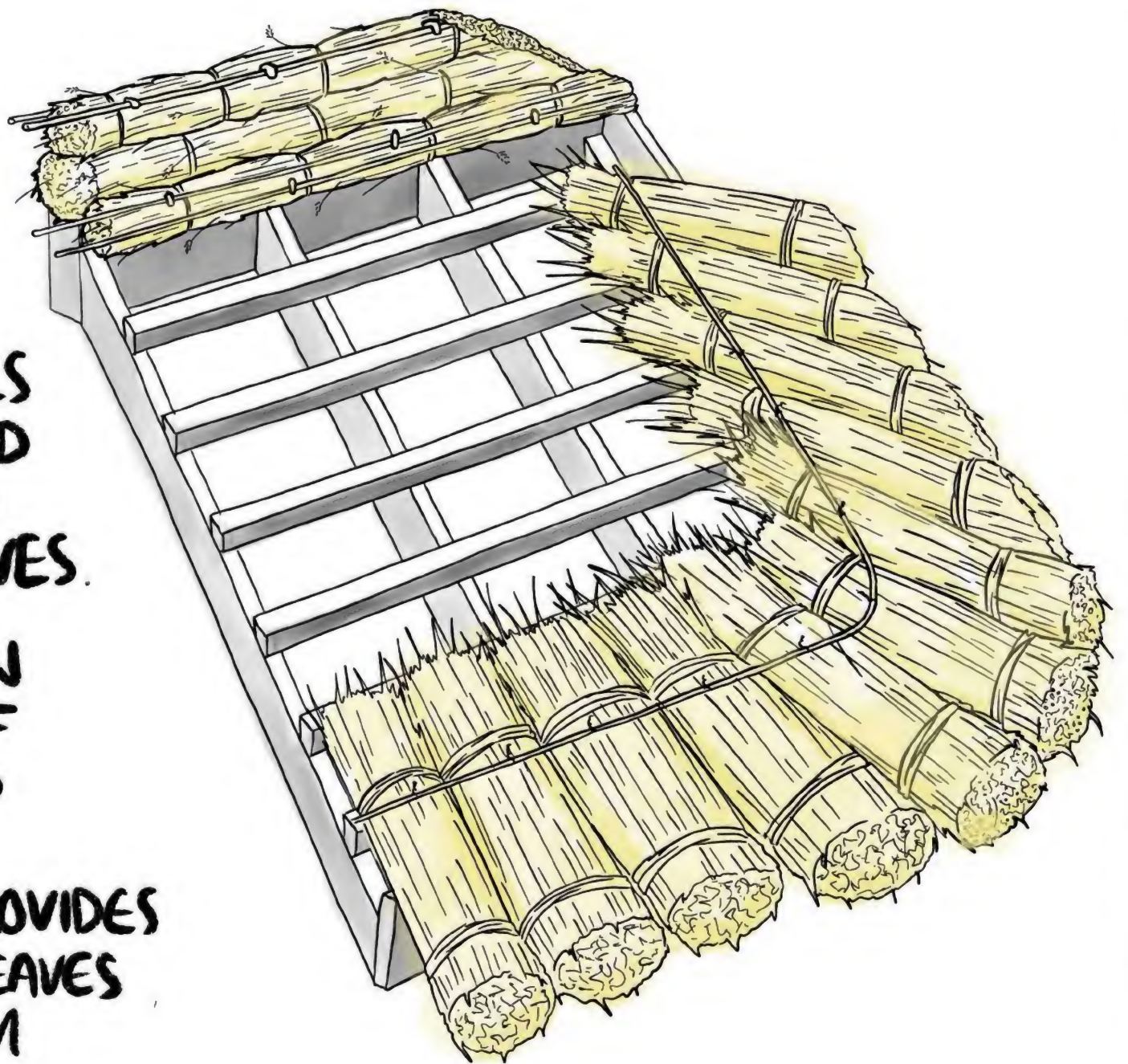
COOL.

LET'S PLAY.



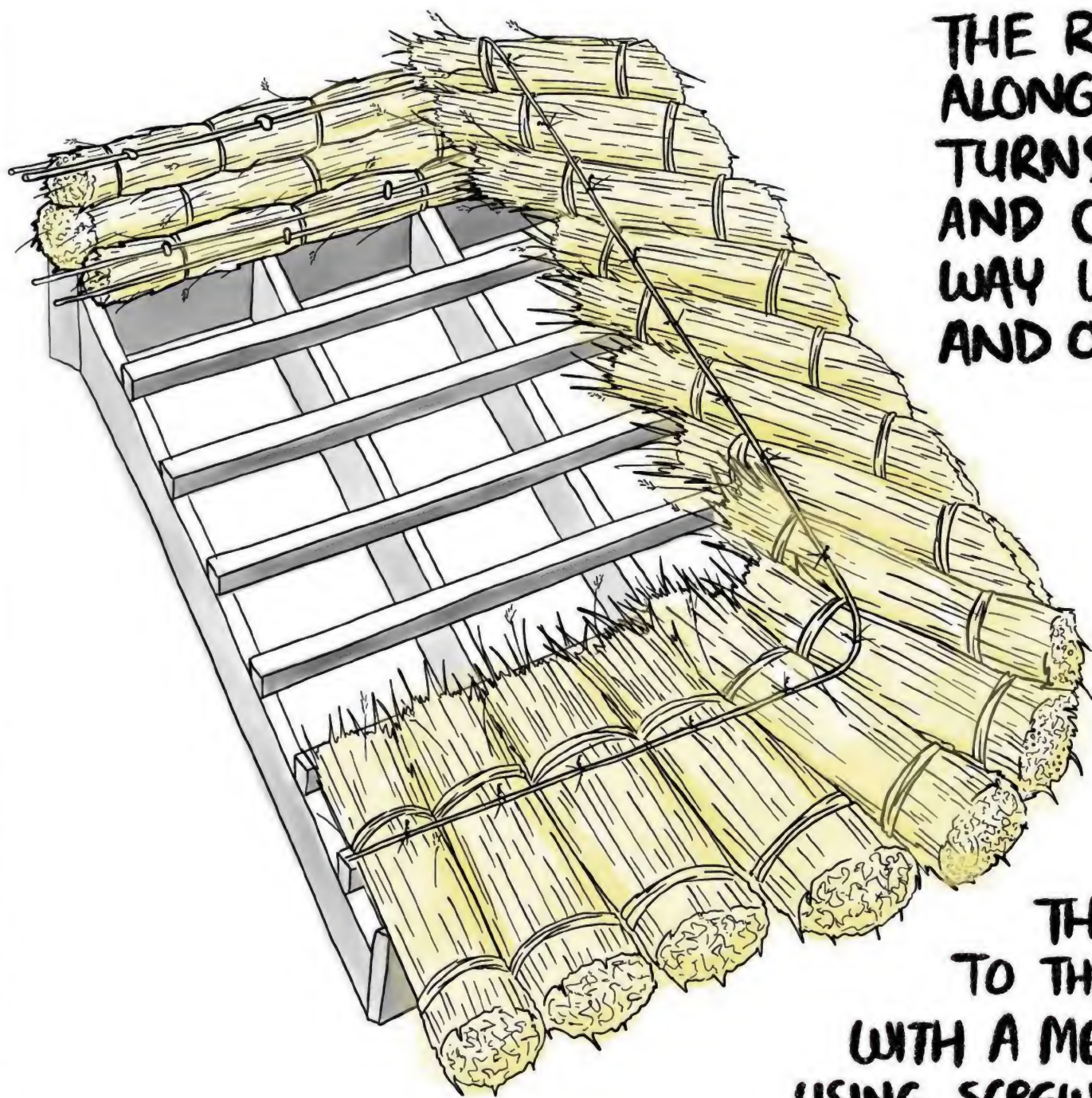
THE RIDGE ROLLS
ARE FIXED TO THE
FRAME WITH A
METAL BAR & CROOKS.
THIS PROVIDES US
WITH A VISUAL
REFERENCE
(and a Finish Line
of sorts)

WE CAN START
LAYING OUT THE
EAVES WADS NOW



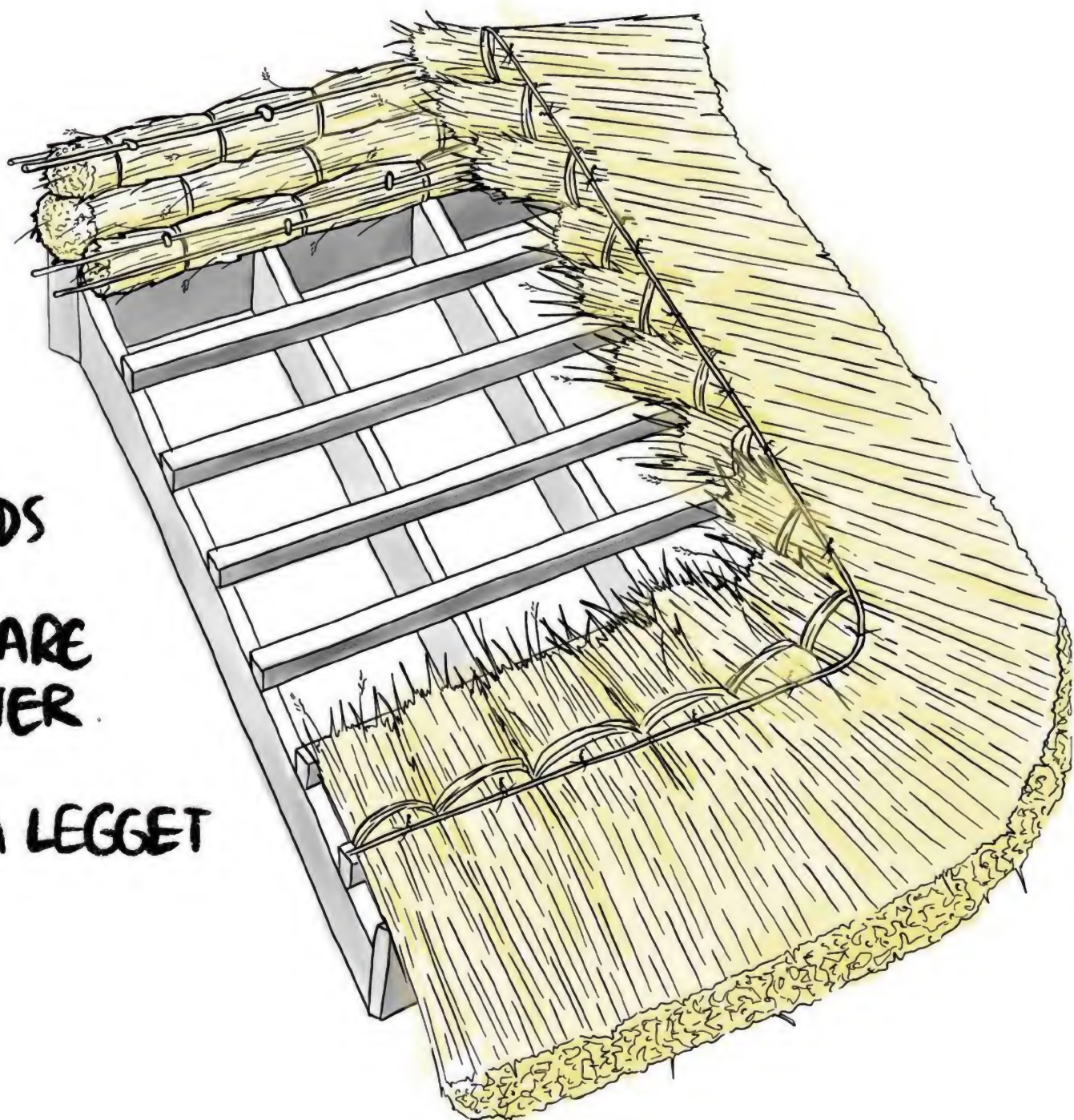
THE RIDGE ROLLS
CAN BE TRIMMED
AND SHAPED TO
TAKE ON THE EAVES.

KEEP AN EYE ON
THE DIRECTION OF
THE REED AND
NOTE HOW THE
FASCIA BOARD PROVIDES
A 'KICK' TO THE EAVES
BY RAISING THEM

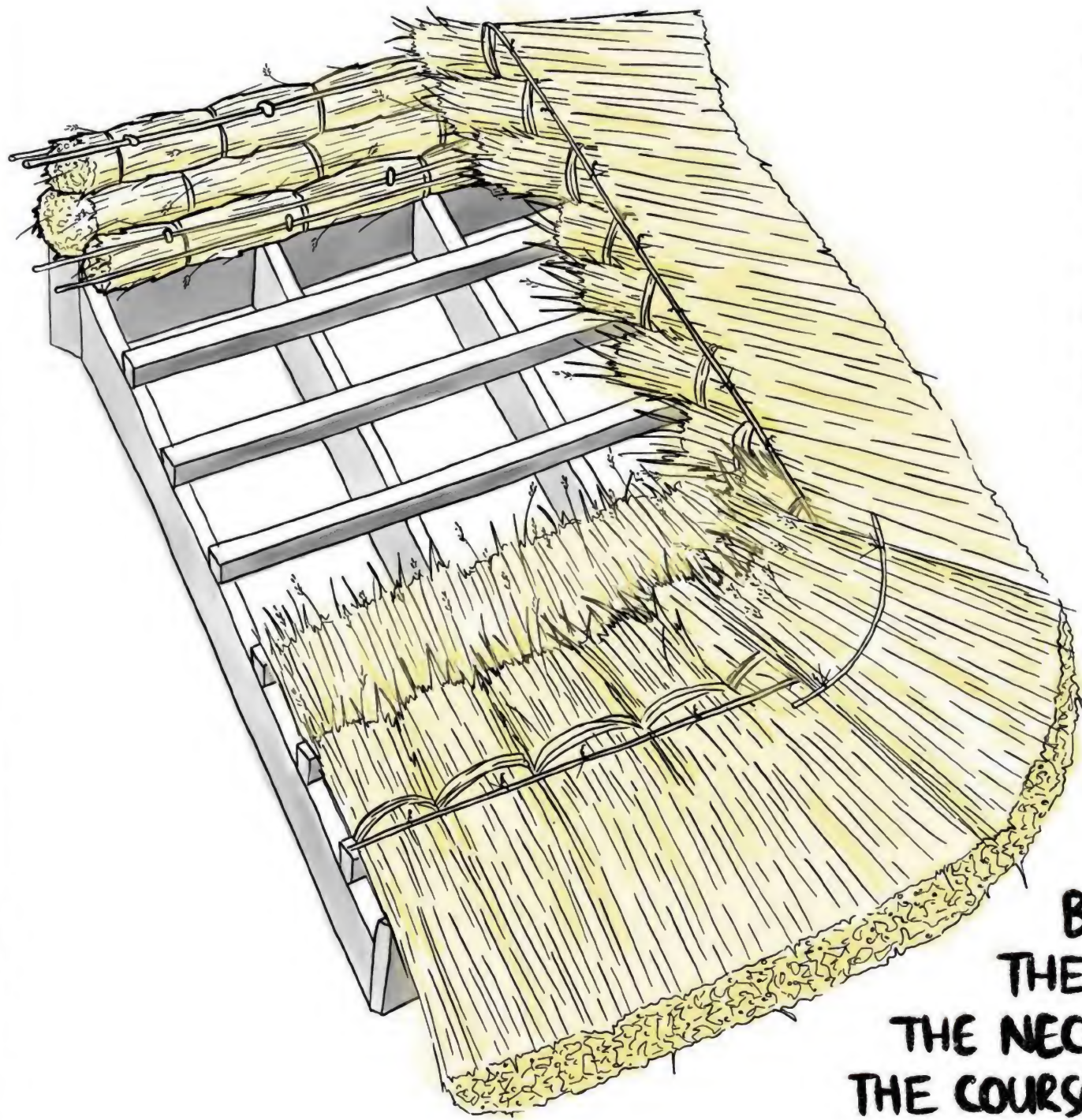


THE REED IS STRAIGHT
ALONG THE EAVES,
TURNS AT THE CORNER
AND CLIMBS ALL THE
WAY UP THE GABLE
AND OVER THE RIDGE ROLLS

THE WADS ARE TIED
TO THE FRAME BELOW
WITH A METAL BAR FIXED
USING SCREW TIES



THE STRAW BONDS
ARE CUT OPEN
AND THE WADS ARE
MARRIED TOGETHER.
THE ENDS ARE
DRESSED USING A LEGGET



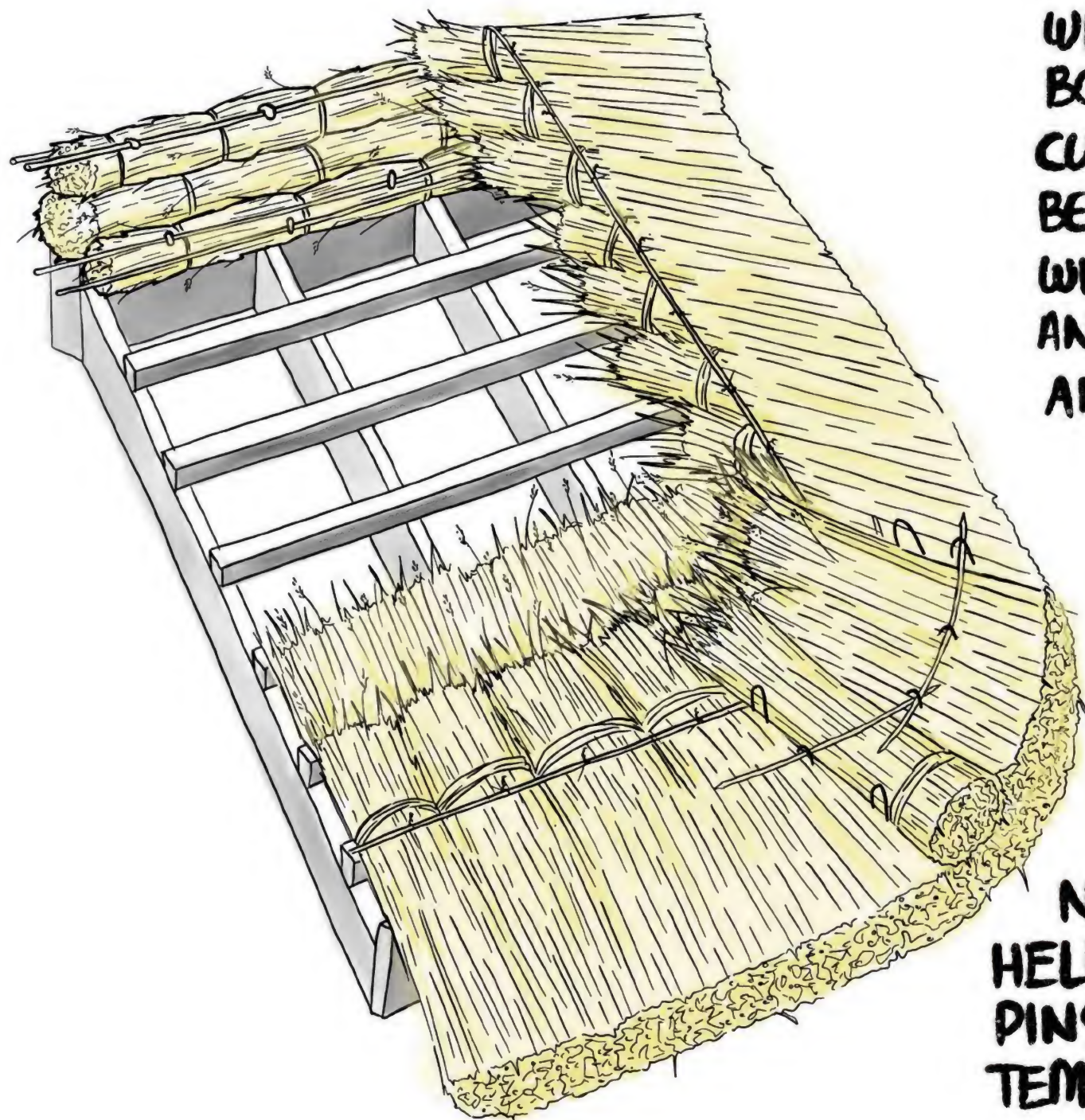
SINCE THE WADS
TEND TO FAN OUT
AT THE CORNERS,
A HALF-COURSE
CAN HELP WITH
MAINTAINING THE
SAME THICKNESS

BACKFILL BEHIND
THE COURSE PROVIDES
THE NECESSARY 'KICK' TO
THE COURSE AND TAKES OUT VOIDS

WE CAN START WITH
THE BROW COURSE.
THE REED IS HELD
IN PLACE TEMPORARILY
BY USING PINS AND
LENGTHS OF HAZEL

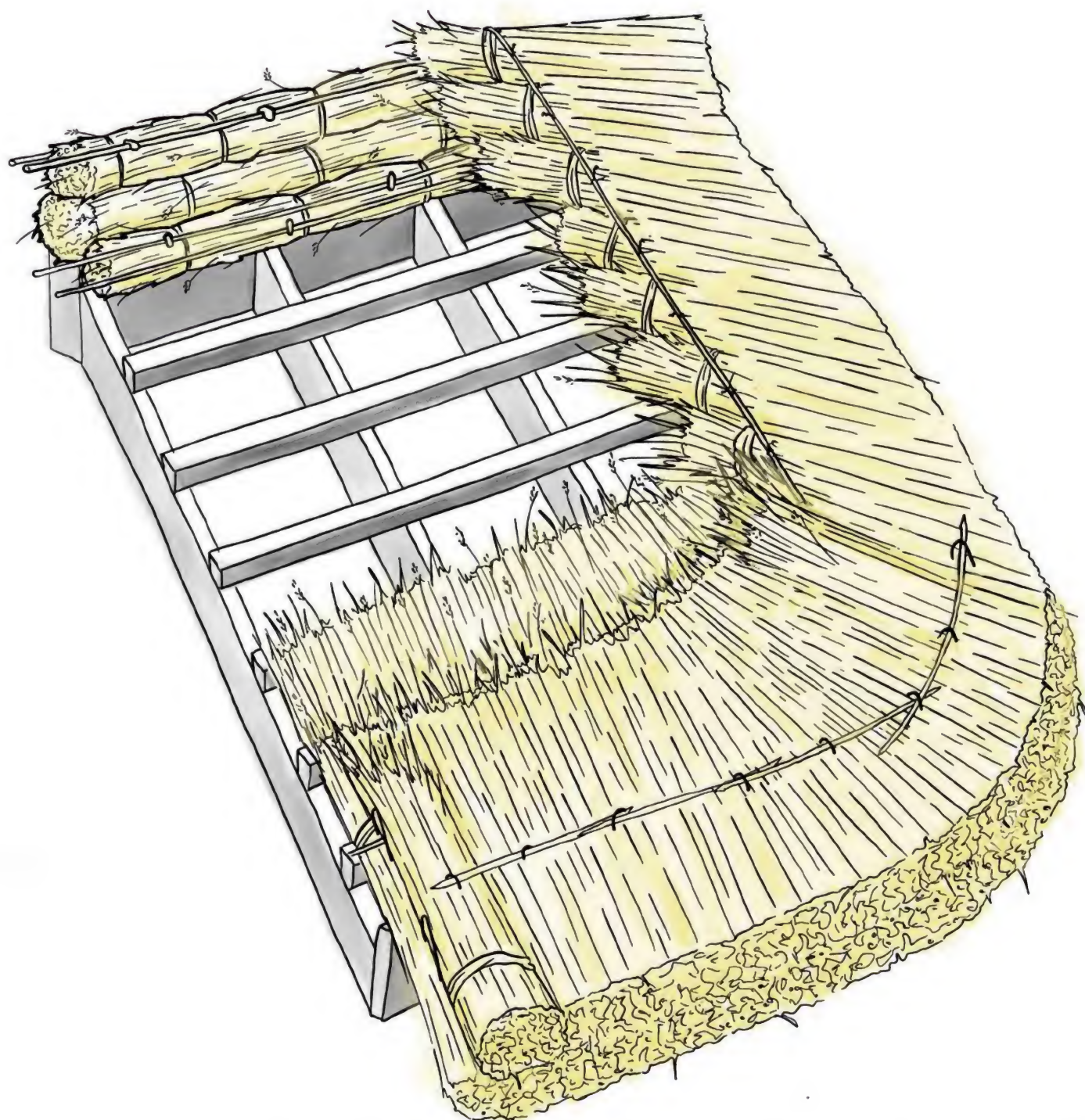


THE SET PIN HELPS
LOCATE THE ROOFING
MEMBERS HIDDEN
UNDER THE STRAW



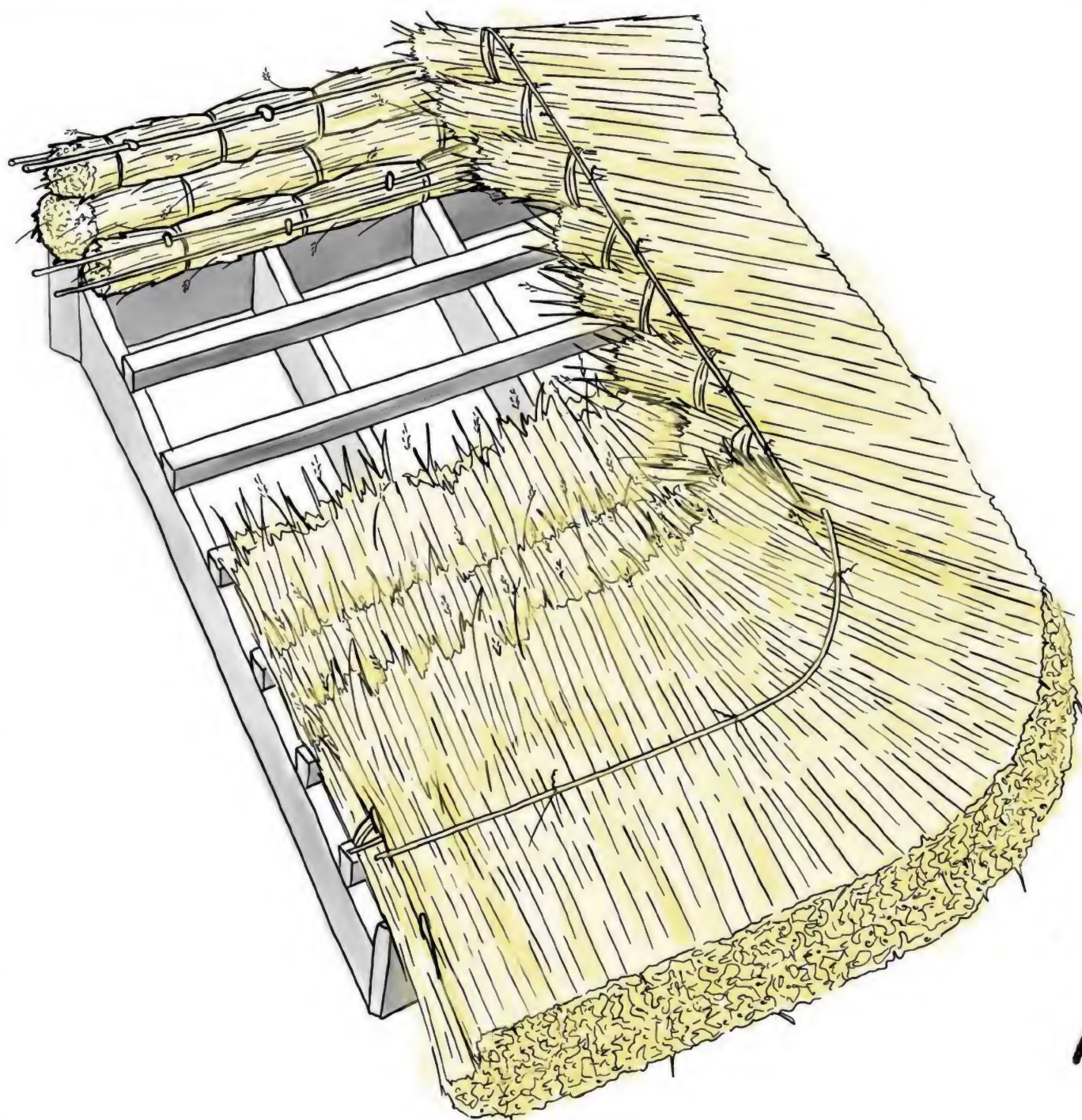
WITH THE STRAW
BONDS ON THE PACKS
CUT OPEN, THEY CAN
BE MARRIED TOGETHER
WHILE MAINTAINING
AN EVEN THICKNESS
AND CONSISTENCY

A NEW PACK CAN
NOW BE PLACED AND
HELD DOWN BY THE
PINS AND HAZEL
TEMPORARILY



THE WHOLE
COURSE CAN
BE LAID OUT
IN THE SAME
WAY WHILE
KEEPING A
STEADY LINE
& RHYTHM

KEEP IT WELL
DRESSED.
BE SUAVE, USE
A LEGGET

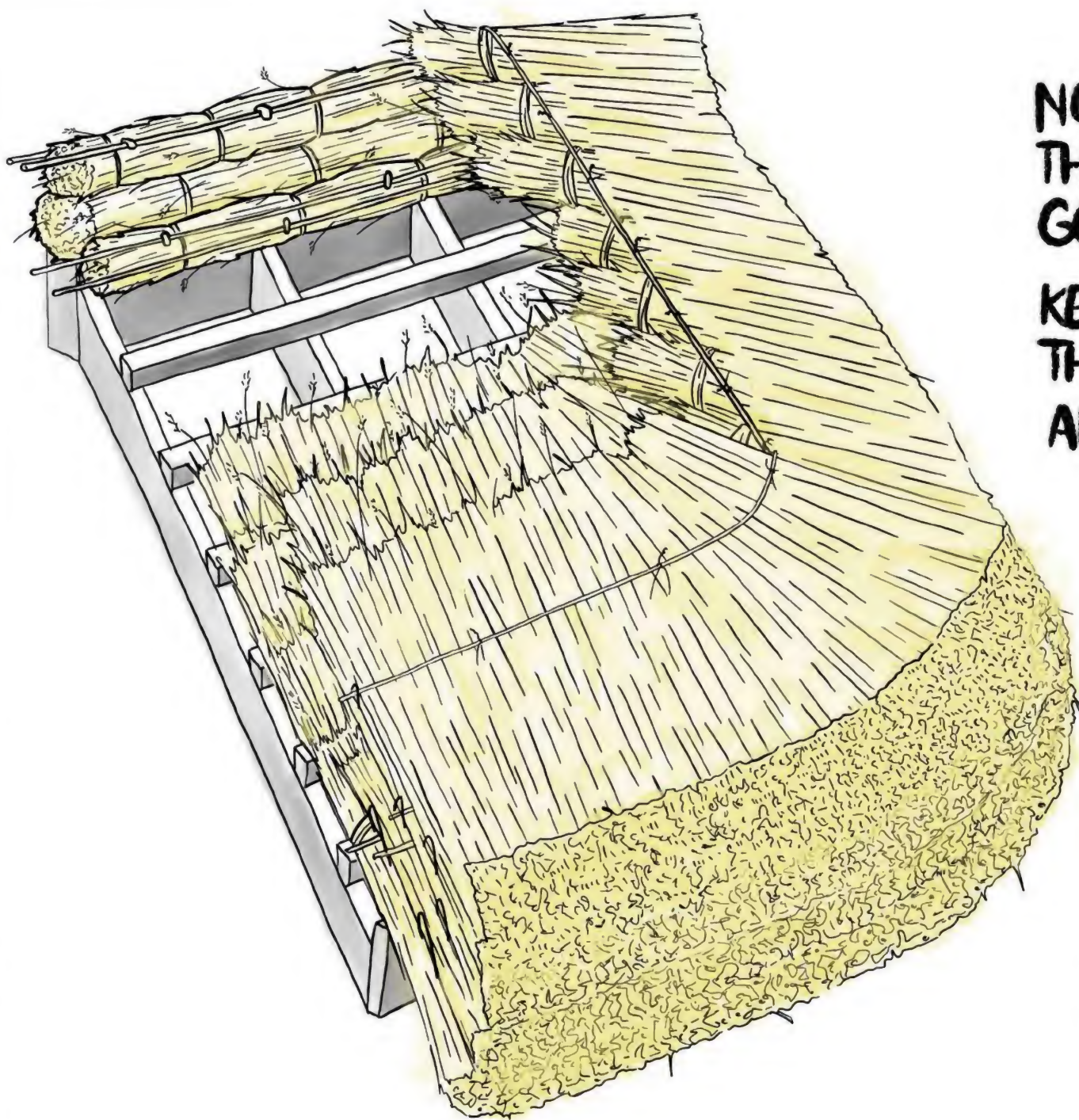


ONCE YOU'RE
PLEASED WITH
THE RESULT,
FIX THE COURSE
PERMANENTLY
BY SENDING SCREW
TIES INTO THE
RAFTERS AND
TIGHTENING THEM
WITH 'TWISTY'

KEEP CALM
&
ADD BACKFILL



AFTER THE
BROW IS READY,
ALL THE
SUCCESSIVE COURSES
START SLOPING
BACK IN ORDER TO
MAINTAIN A STEADY
PITCH.
THE LEGGET IS
OUR BEST FRIEND ..



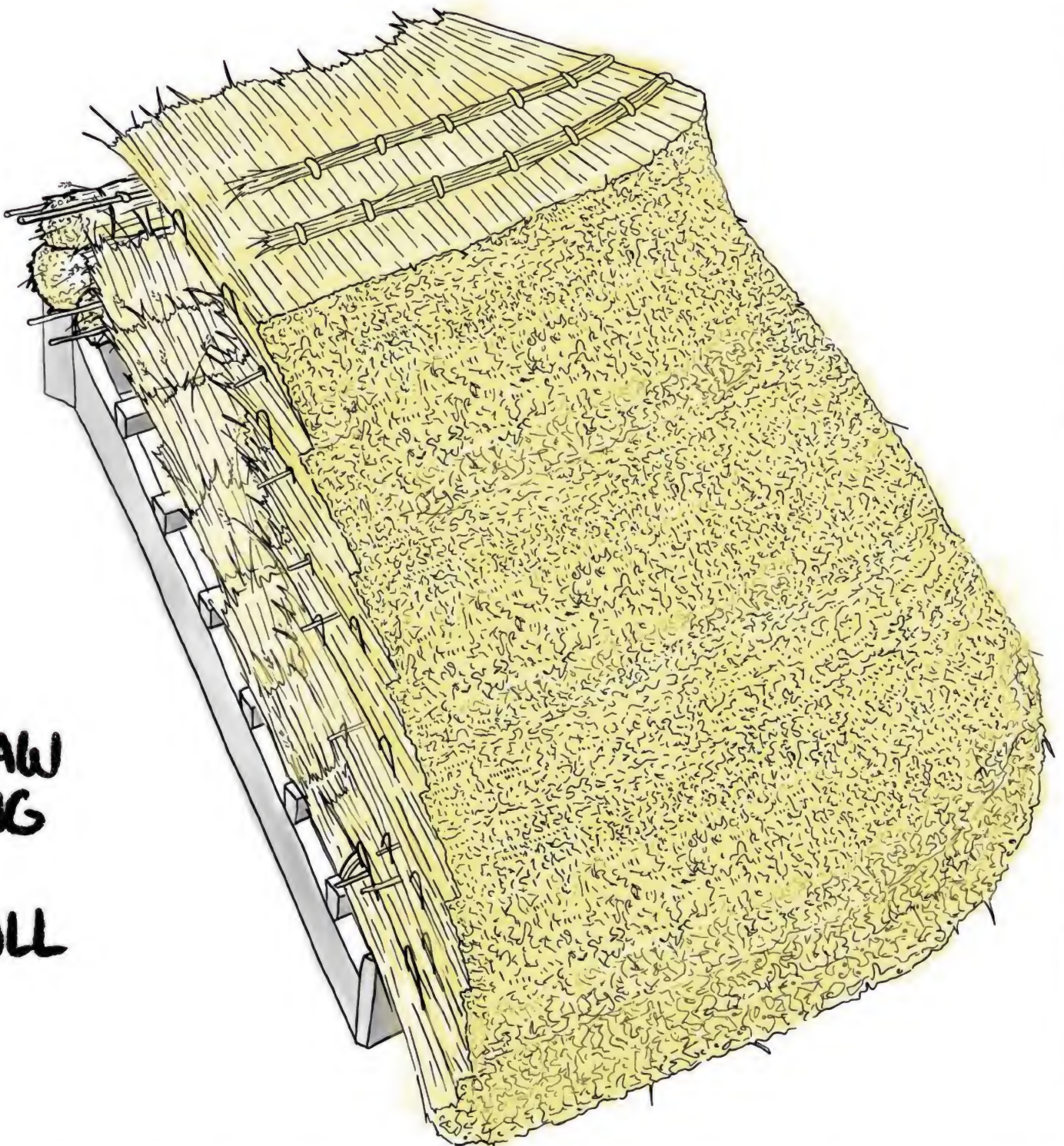
NOW THAT YOU KNOW
THE DRILL,
GO FOR IT!

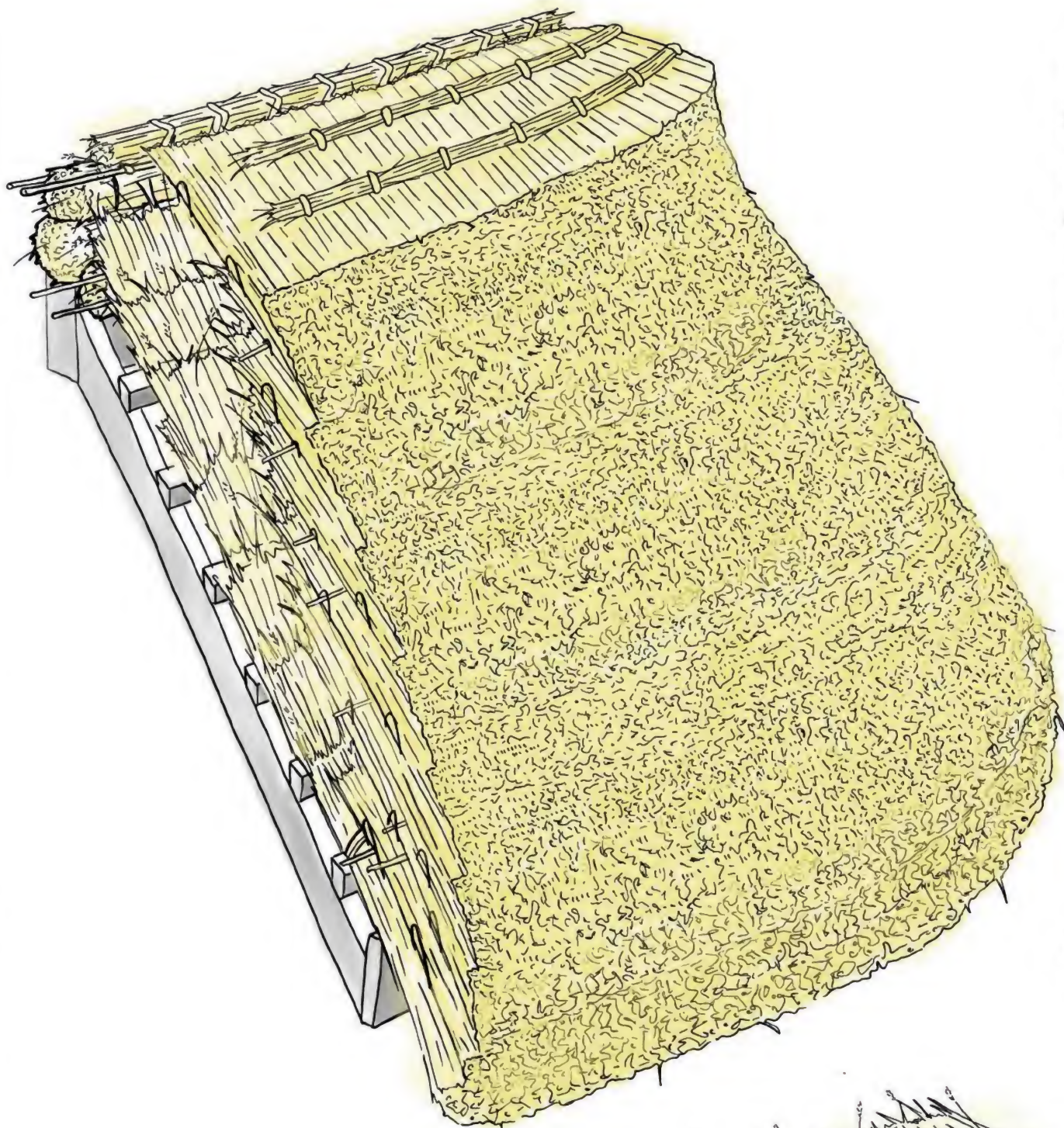
KEEP ADDING COURSES
THAT ARE LEVEL
AND CONSISTENT

THE SET PIN
CAN BE DIPPED
INTO THE COAT
TO KEEP A TAB
ON THE THICKNESS
(12" OR 14" IS GREAT)

SLOWLY & STEADILY
(FUELLED BY WHOLE
WHEAT BREAD)
WE MAKE OUR WAY
RIGHT TO THE TOP!
YAAAY !!

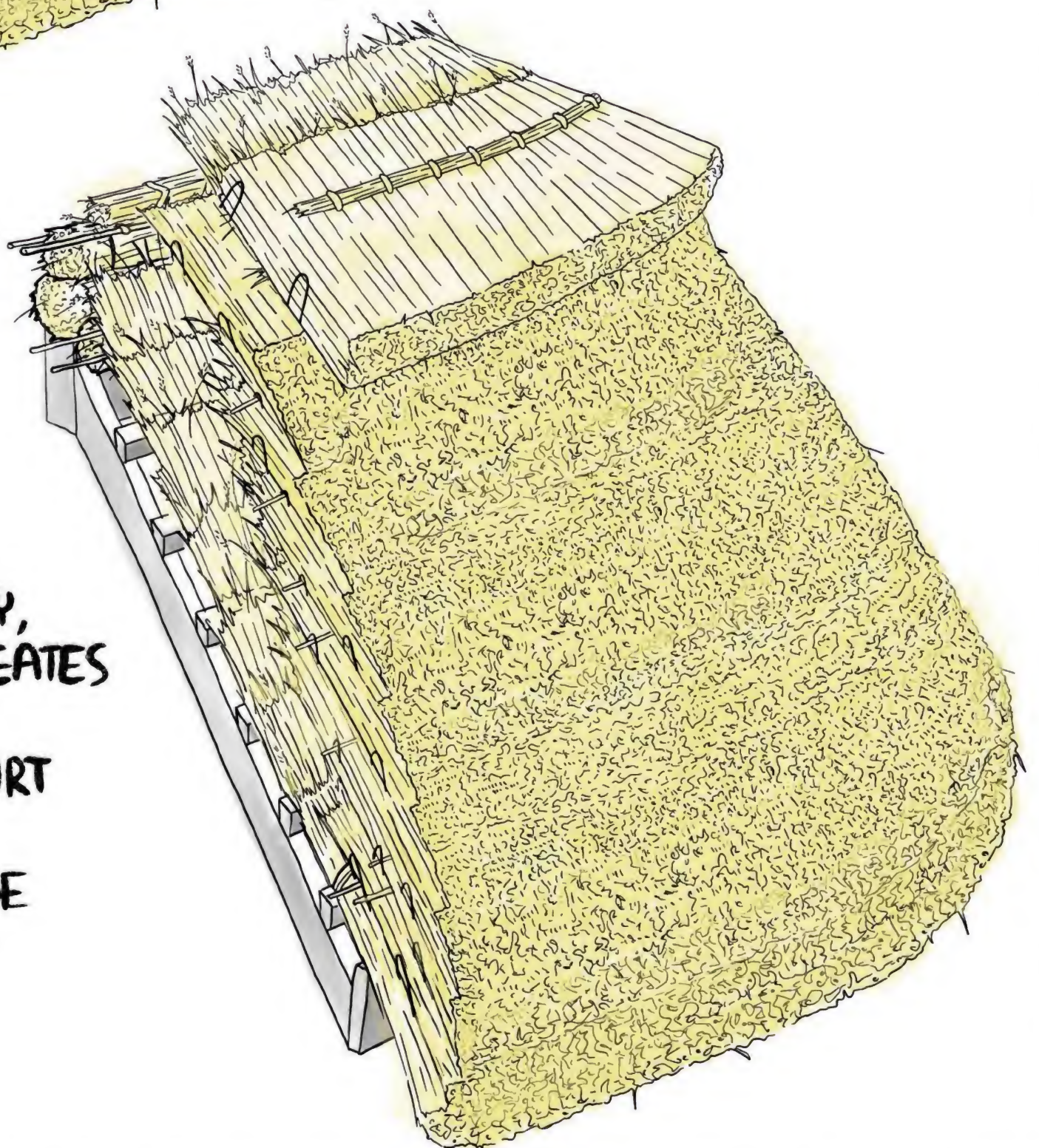
THIS COURSE CAN
BE FIXED USING STRAW
BONDS & BY DRIVING
THE HAZEL SPARS
INTO THE RIDGE ROLL



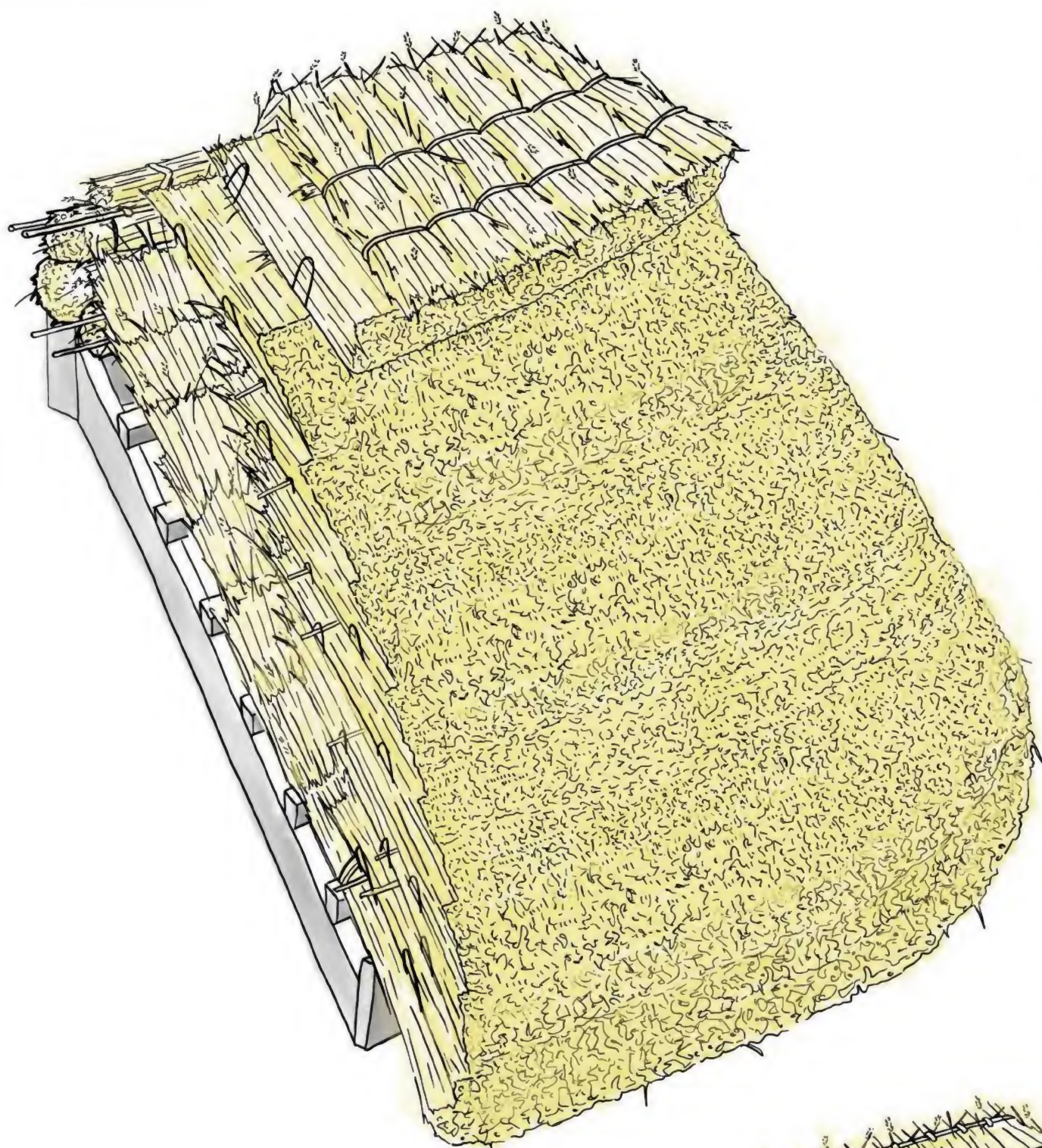


A LEVELLING RIDGE
CAN NOW BE MADE
IN SITU.
THIS IS DONE BY
FIXING STRAW
HANDFULS USING
HAZEL SPARS

WE'RE NOW READY
TO LAY A SKIRT!



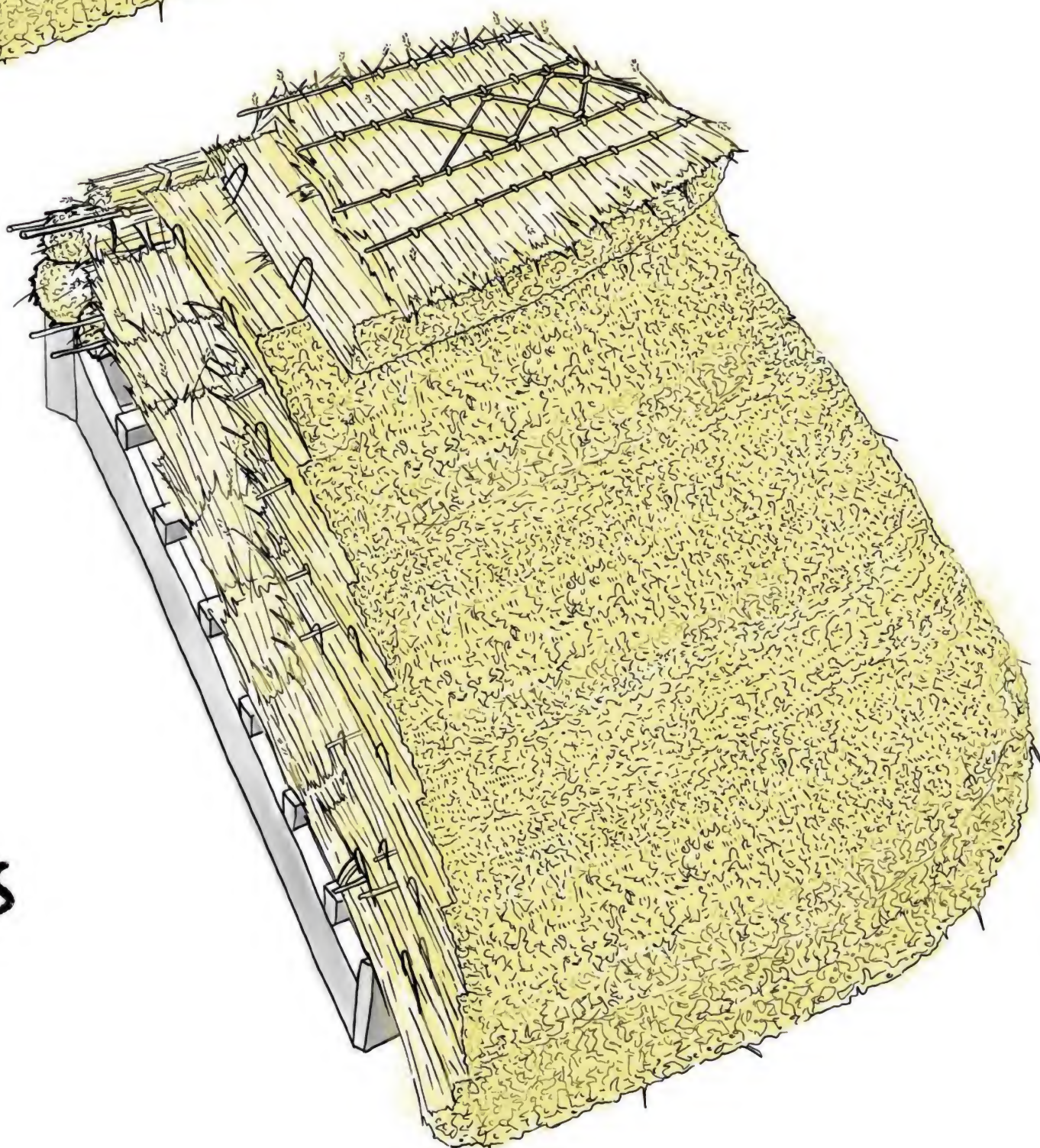
THIS STEP ISN'T
STRICTLY NECESSARY,
BUT IF DONE, CREATES
A BLOCK RIDGE.
WITHOUT THE SKIRT
IT'D BE CALLED
A FLUSHED RIDGE



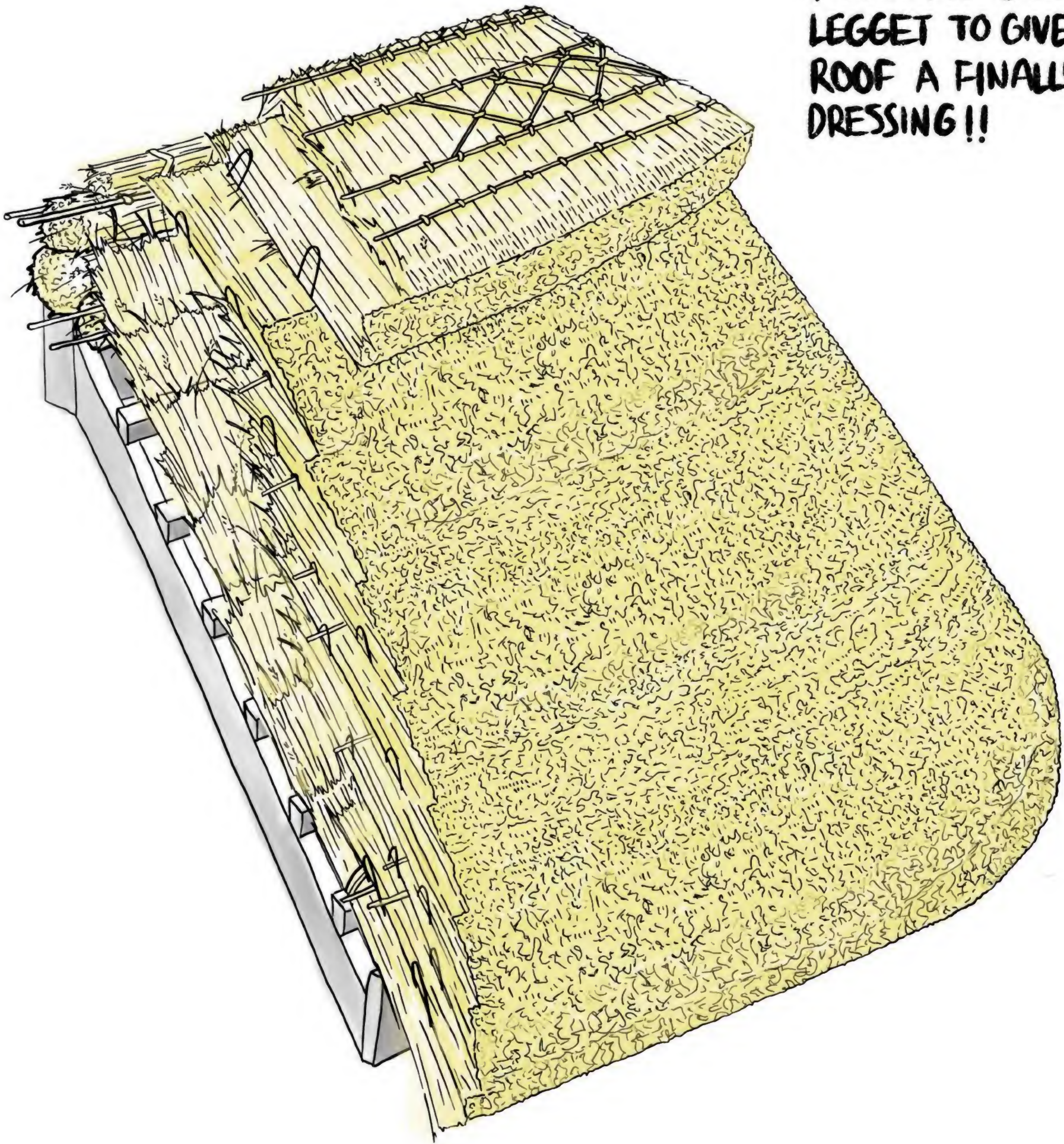
REMEMBER THE
RIDGE WRAPS?
THEY CAN NOW
BE LAID OVER
THE SKIRT AND
HELD IN PLACE
TEMPORARILY

THE STRINGS
CAN THEN BE
CUT AND THE
WRAPS MARRIED

THIS IS MADE
PERMANENT BY
FIXING HAZEL
LENGTHS DOWN
WITH HAZEL SPARS



WITH EVERYTHING IN
ITS RIGHT PLACE WE
CAN NOW PICK UP THE
SHEARS, THE SHEARING
HOOK AND OUR DEAR
LEGGET TO GIVE THE
ROOF A FINALLY FINAL
DRESSING!!



IT'S OKAY TO SHED TEARS OF JOY NOW..

THIS ROOF IS WATERPROOF.



“Thatch’s all Folks!”

SO YOU THINK THIS WAS BAD?
THERE'S WORSE AT WWW.SOARHUB.IN